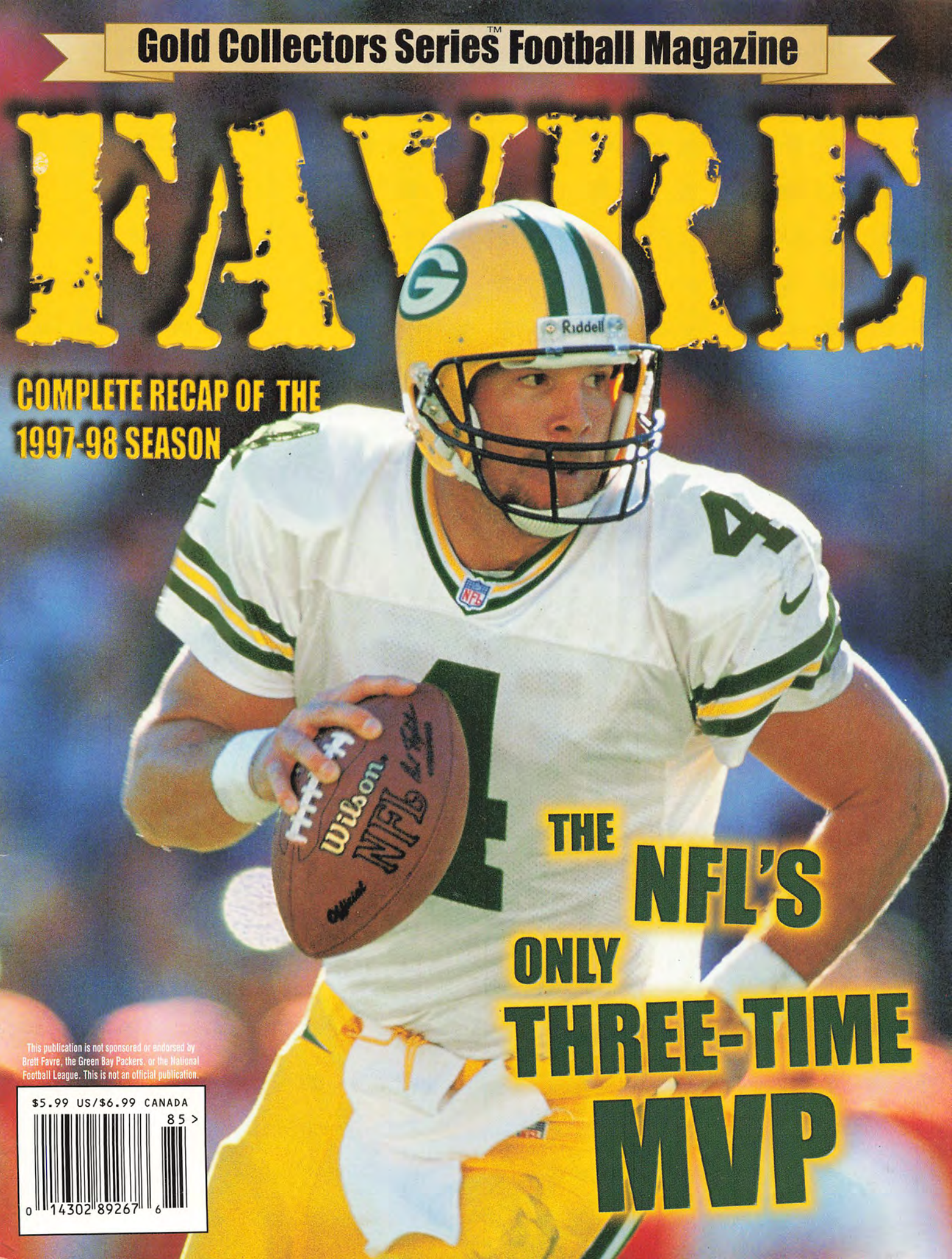
Gold Collectors Series™ Football Magazine

FAVRE

COMPLETE RECAP OF THE 1997-98 SEASON



THE NFL'S ONLY THREE-TIME MVP

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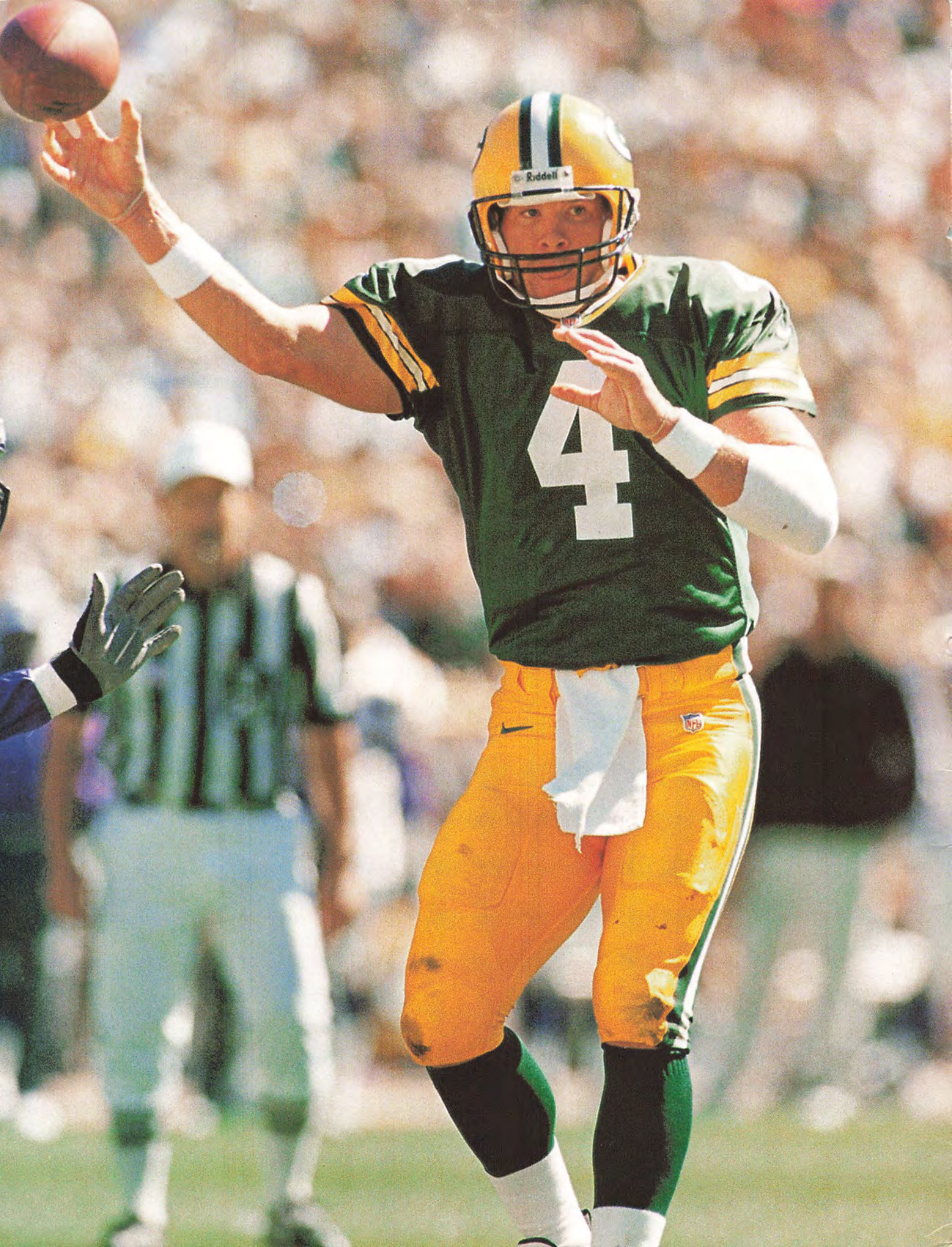
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FAVRE

FAVRE

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

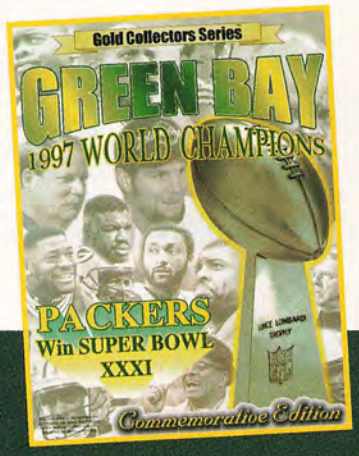
Gold Collectors Series Sports Magazines is proud to present another in our series of collectible commemorative sports titles.

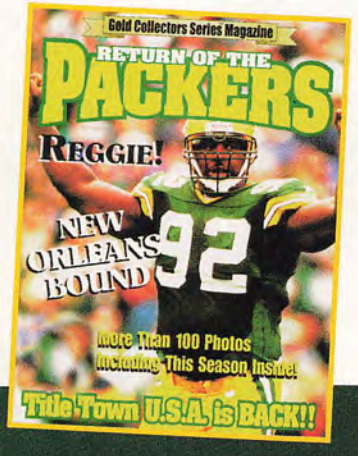
As in every Gold Collectors Series Sports Magazine, "FAVRE" is packed with all the stats, features and color photos from some of the finest sports writers and photographers in the industry.

And, in the tradition of our previous magazines focusing on the Green Bay Packers' return to glory – "Return of the Packers;" "Brett: Two-Time MVP Winner;" and "Green Bay: 1997 World Champions," – "FAVRE" is THE comprehensive magazine focusing on Favre's 1997 season and unprecedented third consecutive NFL MVP award.

We hope you'll enjoy this special commemorative issue. Let us know. You can reach us via e-mail at **hsmedia1@aol.com** or find us on the World Wide Web at **http://www.gcsmag.com**.

John Delavan and Mike Morris
Editors





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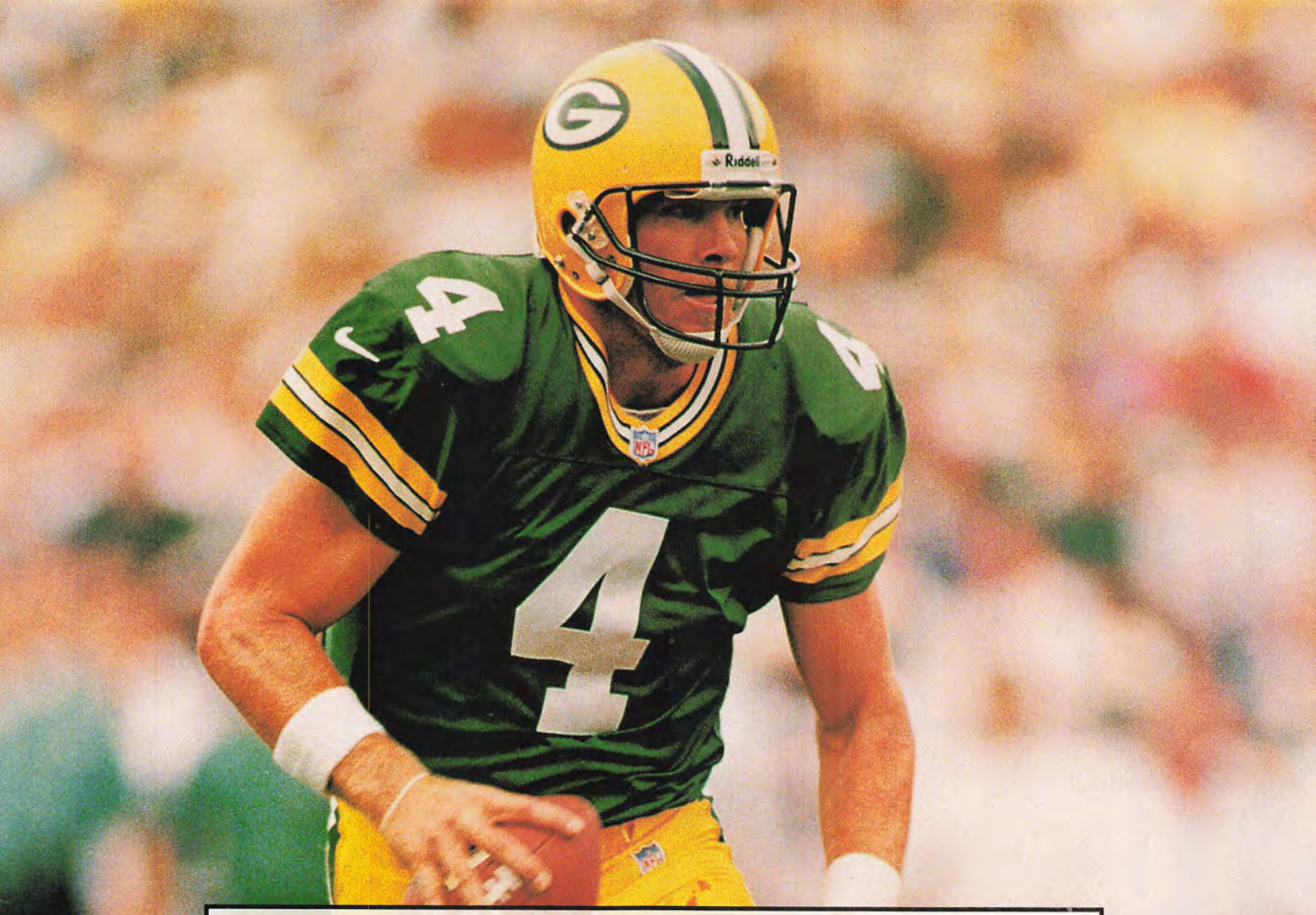

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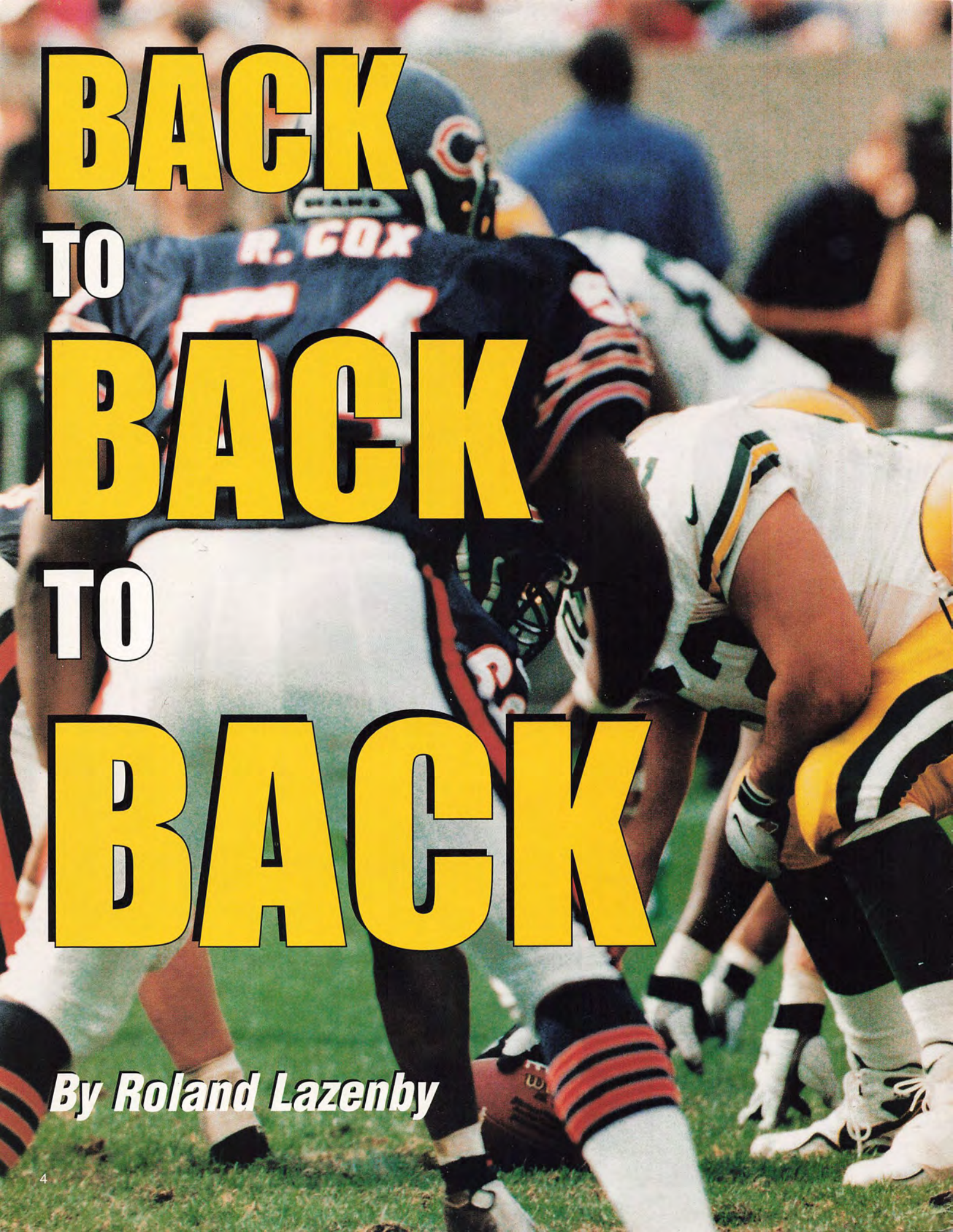
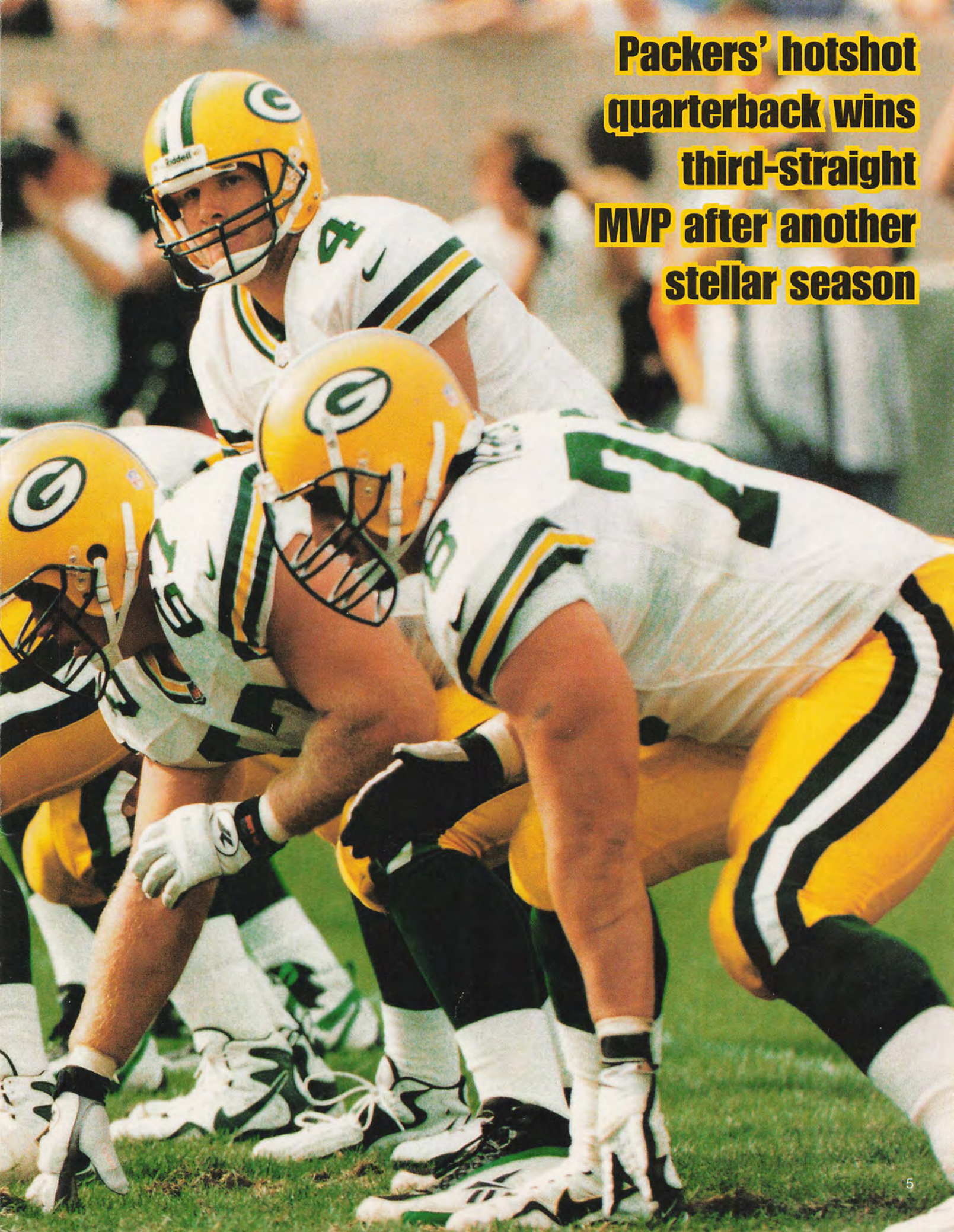
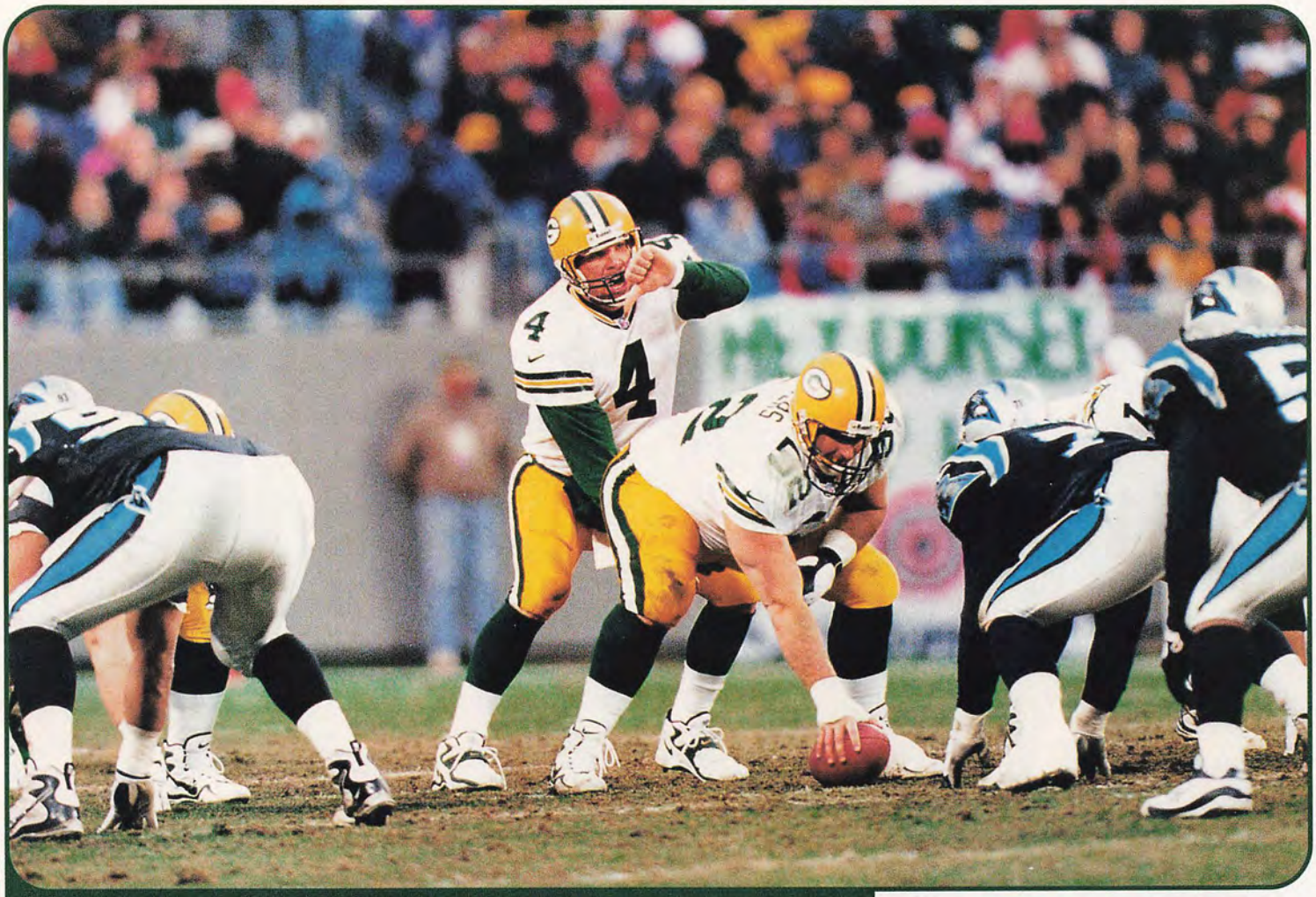


BACK TO BACK TO BACK

By Roland Lazenby



Packers' hotshot quarterback wins third-straight MVP after another stellar season



Favre under center against the Carolina Panthers

Brett Favre obviously wasn't the perfect choice as the National Football League's MVP in 1997. After all, he had to share the award with Barry Sanders, Mr. Fred Astaire in cleats, who zipped and glided his way to more than 2,000 yards rushing while nudging the Detroit Lions into the playoffs.

Then there's the question of San Francisco 49ers quarterback Steve Young, who pushed his team to a better record while winning yet another league passing title.

Yet, if you're searching for endorsements for Favre's candidacy, you need look no further than Young himself, who recalls that up until a couple of years ago he was still offering Favre advice. Now, Young says, he sits back and takes note of things in the Packer QB's approach, looking for tricks that will help his own game.

The hard part, Young says, is that the best aspects of Favre's game – his instincts, his ability to look into the chaos on the field and find options just as the world is about to collapse – are

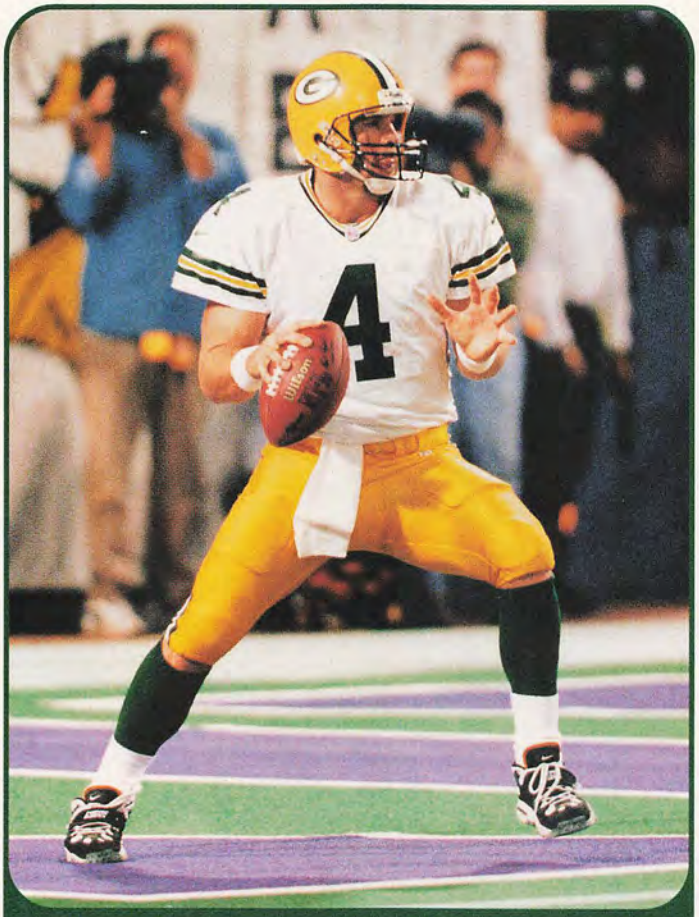
Favre drops back to pass against the Bucs

gifts impossible to duplicate.

"What separates him right now," Young said of Favre, "are the plays that he's making out of the pocket. If (Packers coach) Mike Holmgren were gonna script it, there'd be no way. And Mike knows it. So there's a huge onus on Brett to do that every week. That's a huge responsibility to say, 'We have no plan for you, Brett, but you gotta make six or seven plays today.' That's a huge responsibility."

It is Favre's impressive ability to shoulder that burden that clearly justifies his third straight selection as the league's most valuable player, the first time in eight decades of NFL history that any player has claimed the award three years running.

Yes, it's true that Young had a higher quarterback rating, and that the 49er quarterback threw only 10 interceptions while Favre served up 16 picks. But the results of those Favre interceptions were negligible. Only one of the three Packer losses can be blamed on his bad decisions.



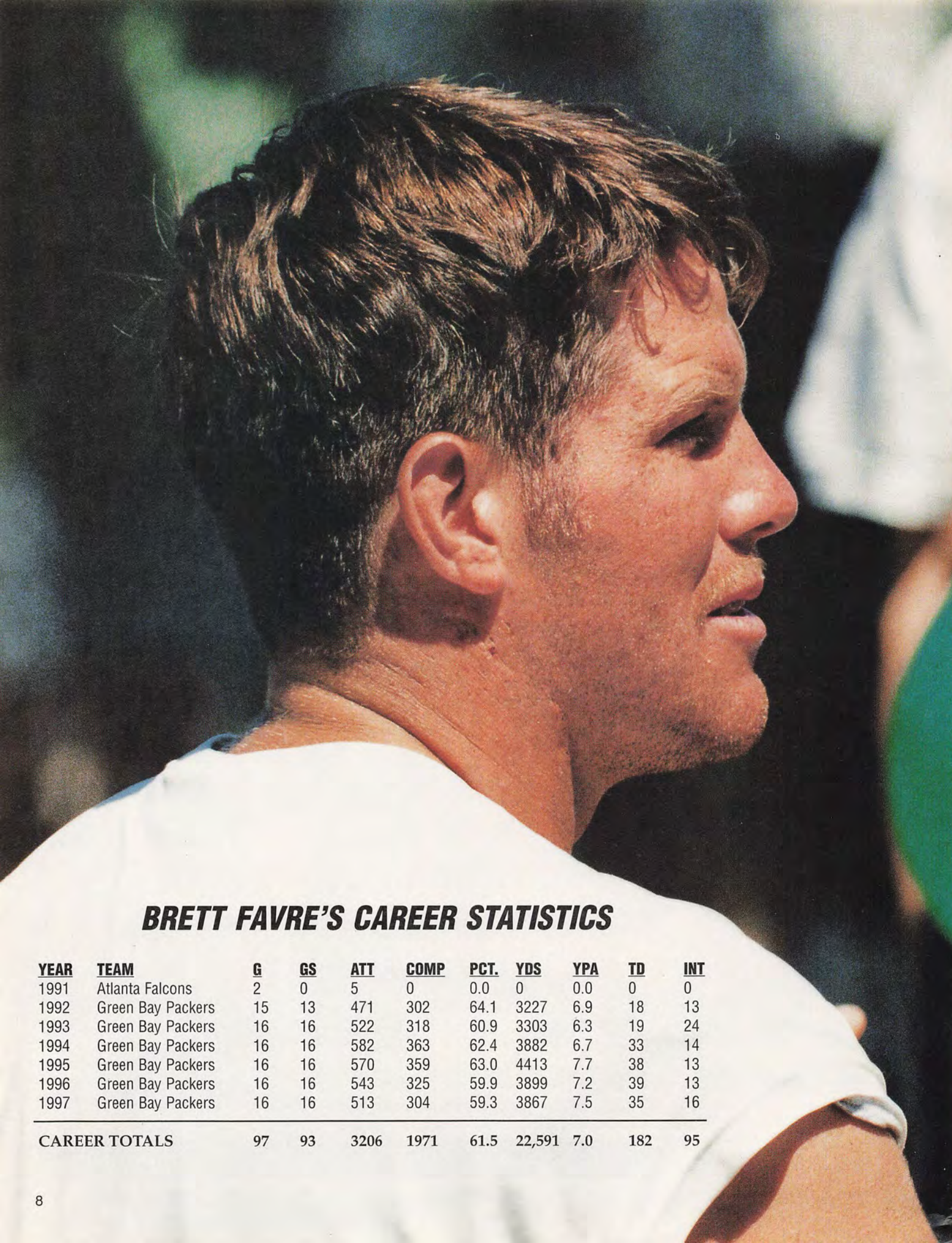
Favre throws a pass from his own end zone

And he played a key role in each of the 13 wins that brought the club its third straight NFC Central crown. "When your quarterback is the MVP of the league and continues to be the MVP, certainly you feel good about that situation," Holmgren said. "You almost kind of feel he won't let you lose. He just won't let the team lose."

Favre threw a league-best 35 TD passes, the fourth consecutive year that he's pitched more than 30. He finished second in passing yards with 3,867. He started every game and took every Packer snap until the 15th week of the season. Plus, he threw a TD pass in every game but one.

His best stats, though, came

Favre looks for an open receiver in Tampa Bay



BRETT FAVRE'S CAREER STATISTICS

YEAR	TEAM	G	GS	ATT	COMP	PCT.	YDS	YPA	TD	INT
1991	Atlanta Falcons	2	0	5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0
1992	Green Bay Packers	15	13	471	302	64.1	3227	6.9	18	13
1993	Green Bay Packers	16	16	522	318	60.9	3303	6.3	19	24
1994	Green Bay Packers	16	16	582	363	62.4	3882	6.7	33	14
1995	Green Bay Packers	16	16	570	359	63.0	4413	7.7	38	13
1996	Green Bay Packers	16	16	543	325	59.9	3899	7.2	39	13
1997	Green Bay Packers	16	16	513	304	59.3	3867	7.5	35	16
CAREER TOTALS		97	93	3206	1971	61.5	22,591	7.0	182	95

when it really mattered, when the Packers were in the red zone, where he passed for 24 scores without an interception. In short, he knows how to finish.

The MVP balloting itself was an example of that. "I felt up until about three weeks ago that, first of all, I wouldn't win it," Favre said. "I felt like Barry Sanders and Terrell Davis had the upper hand, and the last three games just had me barely thinking about it."

But when the balloting was tallied by The Associated Press, Favre and Sanders had attracted 18 votes each from a nationwide panel of 48 sports writers and broadcasters. Davis, the Denver running back, finished third with four votes, followed by Young with three; 49ers tackle Dana Stubblefield, the Defensive Player of the Year, and Pittsburgh running back Jerome Bettis with two each; and Steelers defensive back Carnell Lake with one.

While Favre admitted that he would have preferred to win the award outright, he acknowledged that sharing it with Sanders was fitting. "What Barry has done has obviously been typical Barry, but even more so," Favre said of Sanders' 2,000-yard season. "He's an amazing player. I'm honored to be voted again and to be with him because he's a great player, and to be up on a pedestal with him is amazing."

Fans show their appreciation at a Pack game this season

"I'm glad he let me share it with him this year, because the last couple he's taken it for himself," Sanders quipped. "He reminds me a lot of Michael Jordan. No matter how successful he's been, he's still always the most competitive person on the field. Outside of his incredible talent and everything, he's always just really competitive."

Competitive Spirit Takes Favre To The Top

It's the same hypercompetitiveness that has driven Favre, who began his NFL life as a no-name prospect from Mississippi, to the top of the game, the same competitiveness that delivered the Packers from the realm of also-rans and doormats into the elite air of championship contenders.

Hard as it is to believe, he's been an NFL starter for just six seasons. Yet in that brief time, he's mesmerized legions of Cheeseheads into idolizing his cocksure image, the classic Favre pose, his head encased in that indestructible plastic Packer gold, his gaze directed upfield, the ball, clutched sternum high, loaded in his mitts like a bullet.

Favre signs autographs for his many fans

Favre changes the play against the Panthers

He's a guy with a warrior mentality and a 50-caliber arm, which means that he won't back down from the enemy, and because he's so dangerous, the enemy can't afford to back down from him. Sunday after Sunday, opponents have brought the big rush at him, and playmaker that he is, Favre has stood in the face of those rushes, testing the circumstances, waiting until the last possible instant – before everything crashes down on him – to make something happen.

His run to NFL stardom began with an improbable journey from the University of Southern Mississippi (which explains the nickname "Country" bestowed upon him by his Packer teammates). At Southern Miss, Favre rose to prominence by leading his underdog team to a series of wins over Florida State, Alabama and other college football powerhouses. But his reputation as a gritty kid with a big gun was diminished when he suffered serious injuries in an auto accident just before his senior year that required the removal of nearly two feet of his intestine.

The Atlanta Falcons took him in the second round of the 1991 draft (33rd overall) and promptly gave him the standard rookie treatment – a third-string status and a seat on the bench his first season.

Favre, however, had impressed Packer executive Ron Wolf with his performance at Southern Miss, so Green Bay plunked down a first-round draft pick to obtain him in February 1992. As the teams wrapped up the trade, Falcons personnel director Ken Herock phoned Wolf and told him, "I just made you Executive of the Year."

The Packers had Holmgren, a former 49ers offensive coordinator, as their coach, and they thought Favre would be a nice backup to starter Don Majkowski. In time, they figured, Favre would be the main guy to throw the ball in those famous 49er-style slants and crossing patterns.

That schedule was pushed a bit when Majkowski got injured early in the 1992 schedule, and Favre stepped in with the kind of year that coaches dream of getting out of a second-year quarterback, finishing with 302 completions for 3,227 yards and 18 TDs. Holmgren, who had worked with Joe Montana and Steve Young in San Francisco, said Favre easily had the strongest arm he had ever seen on a QB.

Amazed at his performance, reporters asked Favre for an assessment. "I have a pretty strong arm and I throw downfield a lot," he replied. "I use a lot of three-step drops. I throw some play-action and do move around. I'm not the most accurate passer, but I'm usually close enough."

"He's going to be great," predicted

Favre prepares to hand the ball off

receiver Mark Clayton.

The huge negative, obviously, was the lack of discipline and self-control.

What he possessed, though, was an incredible capacity for improvisation. Caught in a trap? "Don't worry, coach," Favre would say. "I'll shake loose and make things happen." Holmgren spent too many frustrating afternoons trying to make Favre understand that sometimes he just had to throw the ball away. "Sure," Favre would say on the sidelines. Then he'd go back in, get trapped, and still send the ball upfield into a crowd on a wing and a prayer that his arm strength and boyish luck would make something happen.

The circumstances explained how Favre threw a league-leading 24 interceptions in 1993 and fumbled 14 times, providing fodder for critics' charges that he was excitable and prone to mistakes. But the Packers showed their regard by subsequently shipping Majkowski, once a local hero, to Indianapolis and signing "Country" to a five-year contract worth about $20 million before the 1994 season.

Yet, early in the 1994 campaign, an exasperated Holmgren was still considering benching Favre in favor of backup Mark Brunell. "Oh, we had a wonderful adjustment period there," Holmgren says now. "Brett was this wild stallion. I admit I was harder on him than I have been on any quarterback I've ever coached."

That included whacking him upside the helmet when talking didn't seem to work. "I coached him like other coaches coach linebackers," Holmgren admitted.

Somewhere early in the 1994 schedule, Favre finally got the message. Holmgren says that he and the quarterback finally figured the whole thing out.

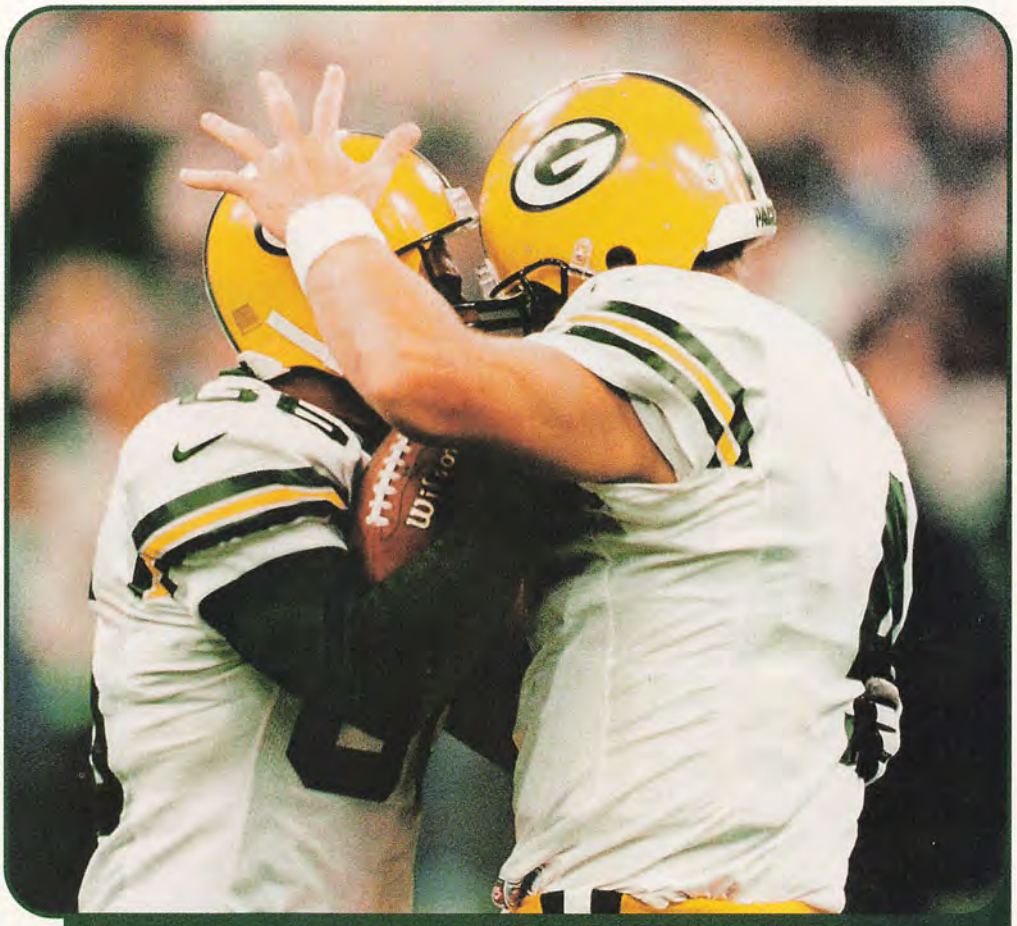
"I'm average in smarts," Favre once appraised. "But in ability I'm pretty good."

He confirmed that in 1994 by turning in a stellar season (3,882 yards, 38 TDs, 14 INTs) and leading the Packers to a wild-card playoff slot. The cap to an outstanding regular schedule was his last-second diving touchdown against the Falcons, assuring Green Bay of a spot in the playoffs.

"I was pretty confident," Favre said of the final drive. "I kept telling the guys on the sideline that we were going to score, that someone was going to make a play. I just didn't think it would be me."

Next in the storybook was Green Bay's first-round win over Detroit in the 1994 playoffs. After that, the Packers' season ended with a loss in Dallas, but Favre had established the teamwide confidence for an outstanding 1995 season.

Despite losing primary target Sterling Sharpe to a career-ending injury, Favre threw for a league-leading 4,413 yards and 38 touchdowns against only 13 interceptions in 1995, his first MVP campaign. Then he saved his best performance for the divisional playoffs while leading the Packers to a 27-17 upset of the defending Super Bowl



Favre head butts Antonio Freeman after a touchdown

champion 49ers. Favre fired 21 completions in 28 attempts for 299 yards and three touchdowns, a showing that elevated the Packers to the NFC championship game against the Dallas Cowboys, a level of competition Green Bay teams hadn't reached since the Super Bowl championship teams of Vince Lombardi.

"Beating the 49ers is about the biggest win I ever had," Favre said. "I didn't really think about my numbers at the time, though, because we beat them so easily. It really didn't sink in 'til later."

Although the Packers got off to a slow start in the NFC title match with Dallas, Favre settled down and drove the Packers to the verge of what appeared to be a go-ahead score. Instead, he threw an interception that allowed the Cowboys to win, 38-27.

"If I don't throw that interception to Larry Brown late in the fourth quarter, we win that game," he said afterward. "We had been scoring at will in the second half, and if we had scored again I think it would have driven a stake through their hearts because they'd never been in that position before."

Despite the defeat, Favre and his Packers had climbed the mountain, and the view from the top had told them they could compete. For three seasons, the pressure to take them there had been Favre's because the entire Green Bay offense was built around his quarterback play. Being named the league's MVP only added to his confidence and the fans' expectations that bigger things were ahead.

Sideline discussion with Holmgren

Talented Favre Faces His Troubles

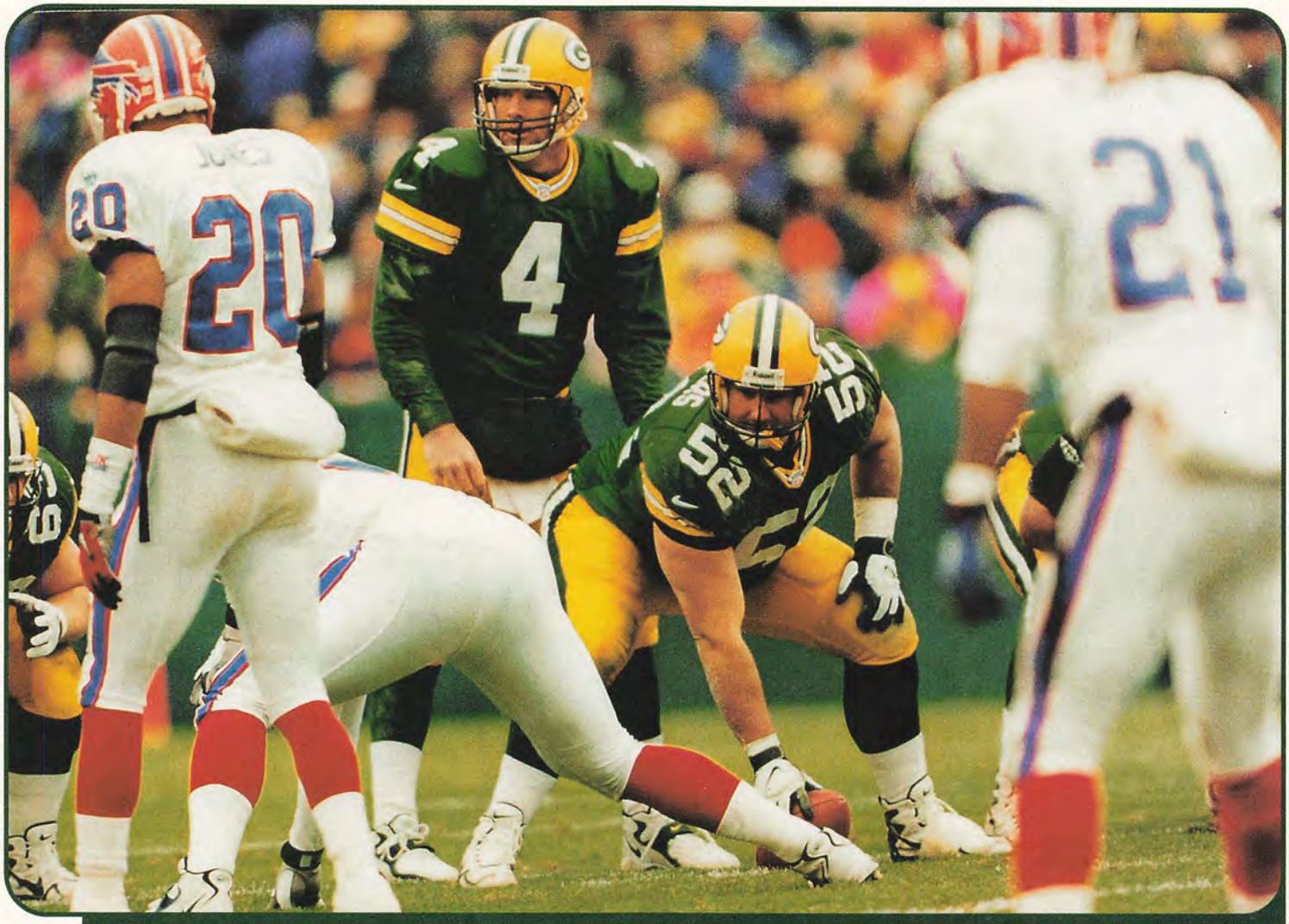
Yet, on the brink of real success, he faced a setback with the admission in the spring of 1996 that he was addicted to painkillers, a byproduct of his desire to compete despite the aches of the beating he took week after week. Rather than run from the problem, Favre went public with the matter and stepped back to confront his addiction, all the while very aware that if he faltered coming out of treatment, the entire Packer machine would probably come to a halt.

His supporters pointed out that Favre mostly relied on the painkillers to get him through the achy days after games, not the games themselves. For his teammates and family, there was the matter of his competitive history. His rise to prominence had been a short, brilliant trip, which created hope that his return would follow a similar route.

His path, however, was lined with a number of skeptics, not so much people critical of Favre as they were simply aware of the real dangers and impossibilities of drug addiction. They were waiting to see if he really was willing to live for that day when Green Bay returned to the Super Bowl.

To his credit, Favre didn't keep anyone in suspense. He came out of treatment and headed right into training camp that summer of 1996, building confidence in those around him from the very start. Regardless, it was not an easy journey. The ensuing months also brought the arrest of his 19-year-old sister Brandi in connection with a

Setting up the play in the huddle



Favre looks over the defense

drive-by shooting (she was not accused of being the trigger person and later received a year's probation in connection with the incident), but worse, Favre's 29-year-old brother, Scott, was charged with felony drunk driving following a wreck that killed a close family friend.

The incidents and their subsequent publicity tormented Favre, who comes from a close family in the hamlet of Kiln (pronounced Kill), Mississippi. At nearby Hancock Central High, Irvin Favre spent 30 years coaching football, a tenure that saw him direct all three of his sons, Scott, Brett and Jeff, as quarterbacks. Mom Bonita was a special-education teacher.

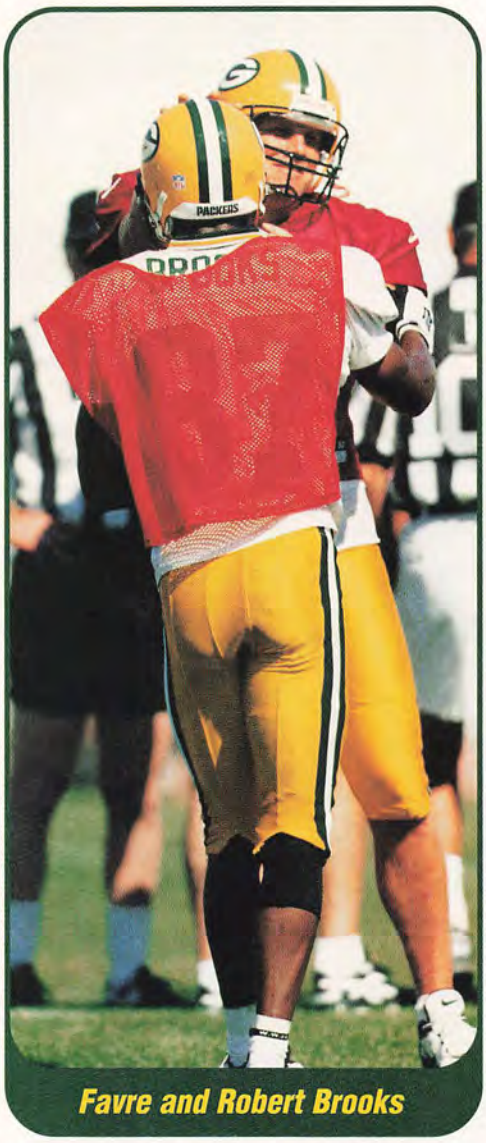
"Leave my family out of it," Favre told reporters who asked about his brother and sister. "How would you like it if something happened to one of your family members and you'd see it on the front page of every newspaper in the United States? It's not fair to them. They enjoy watching me play pro football. They enjoy every honor I ever won. But they don't enjoy the other side of it, as I don't enjoy it."

His personal problems were accompanied by a host of on-field hurdles. Primary receiver Robert Brooks was lost to a knee injury, soon to be followed by wideout Antonio Freeman with a broken arm and tight end Mark Chmura with a torn arch.

Not only was the receiving corps in turmoil, the offensive line was in shreds. Veteran left tackle Kent Ruettgers, Favre's primary guardian, missed most of the season with a degenerative knee condition that finally forced his retirement, leaving a mish-mash of rookie John Michels, third-year understudy Gary Grown and journeyman Bruce Wilkerson. The patchwork contributed to Favre being sacked a career-high 40 times over the 1996 season, all with no painkillers to help him overcome the plethora of aches that came from getting slammed to the ground week after week.

"It was like, 'OK, if it wasn't tough enough on you to start the season, let's make it a little tougher," Favre would later explain. "'We'll take Robert out. Ruettgers is not going to be back, and that's the most important position on the offense. Then along the way, we'll take your No. 2 receiver out.' It was like, 'OK, we'll put you to the test and see how you respond.'"

The 1996 numbers indicate the inten-



Favre and Robert Brooks

sity with which Favre met the challenge. He threw for 3,899 yards over 16 regular season games and an NFC-record 39 touchdowns, breaking his own record of 38 set in 1995. This stunning productivity drove the Packers to a 13-3 regular season and a playoff drive that resulted in the club's first Super Bowl victory in three decades. Perhaps more than anything, the trophy was a testament to Favre's toughness.

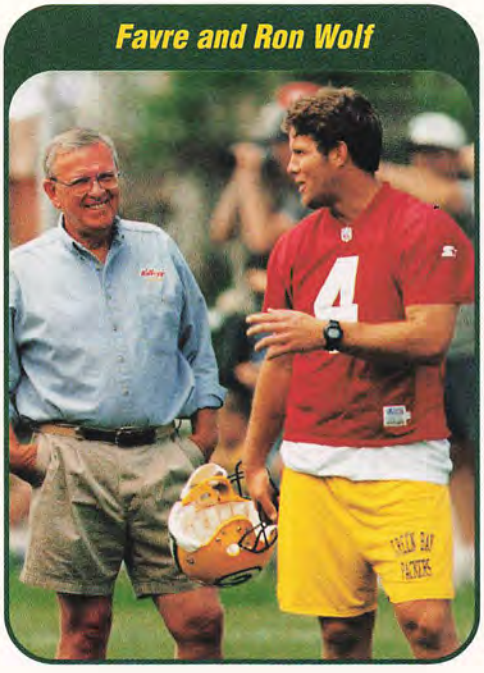
"The quarterback is supposedly someone who doesn't want to get hit," said Green Bay's Robert Brooks. "But Brett is one of the toughest guys on the team. To know that your leader can endure punishment and not miss games, it gives you a sense of confidence."

There was little question that with two consecutive league MVP awards and the championship – not to mention his victory over himself – Favre had become the game's dominant player.

All of which meant that for 1997, the pressure was gone. He could relax and simply play. "Going into this year, I was like, 'Thank God I've won two and I don't have to worry about it anymore," Favre said. "I didn't know if I could maintain the lofty standards I'd set."

His primary preparation in the offseason was a meticulous weight program that helped him add 30 pounds, pushing his body to 237 pounds on a 6-2 frame. Having been to the mountaintop, Favre knew what it would take to get back. "At one point last year, I was 207," Favre said. "Last year, this time of year, I got real tired. I was running every day just killing myself and then come game time, I'd scramble and I couldn't even breathe in the huddle."

There were other improvements for 1997. He pushed his game management skills, the audibles and reads that make the difference in winning and losing.



Favre and Ron Wolf

Favre and Mark Chmura

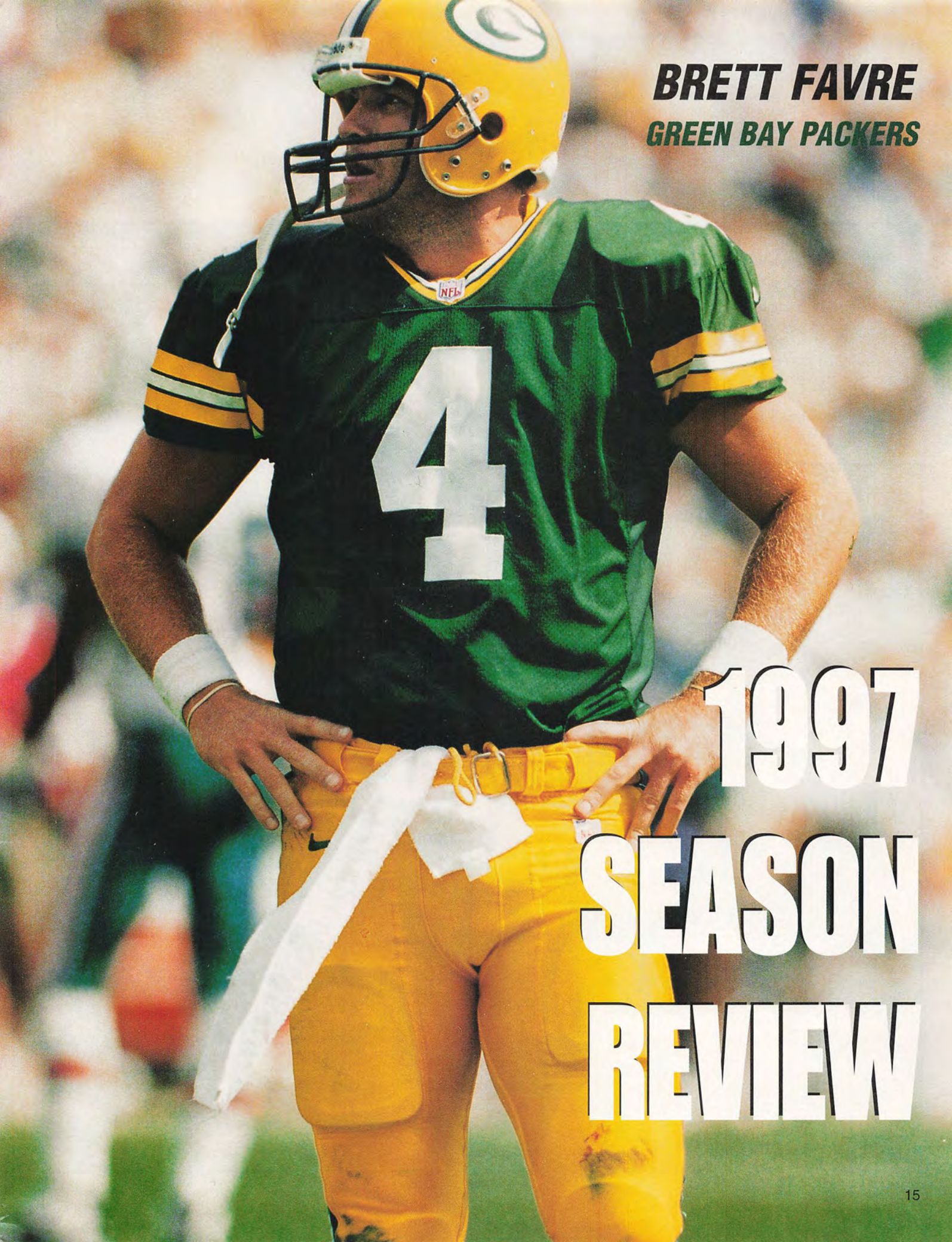
Another giant factor was the change the added strength brought to his already big arm. Once the season opened, his passing game began showing real power. No longer were his deep throws mere lofts. Instead, he was loading a rifle. At least that was how it looked late in the season against the Carolina Panthers when he drew a bead on receiver Antonio Freeman and nailed him with a 58-yard bullet.

"There ain't many throws that I've thrown that were better than that one," Favre told reporters afterward. "That one kind of just stuck to his chest. He had no choice but to just catch it.

"I've always thought I could make those throws, but I guess being in as good a shape as I was in last year and being 30 pounds heavier, there's a little more mustard," he said.

No, the season wasn't perfect, just a remarkable segment on Favre's continuing journey to greatness. ■

Roland Lazenby is the author of 35 sports books, including "Smashmouth! Attitude Between the Lines," a story of the NFL's hypercompetitive players, recently released by Addax Publishing of Kansas City.



BRETT FAVRE

GREEN BAY PACKERS

1997 SEASON REVIEW

1997 NFL PRESEASON

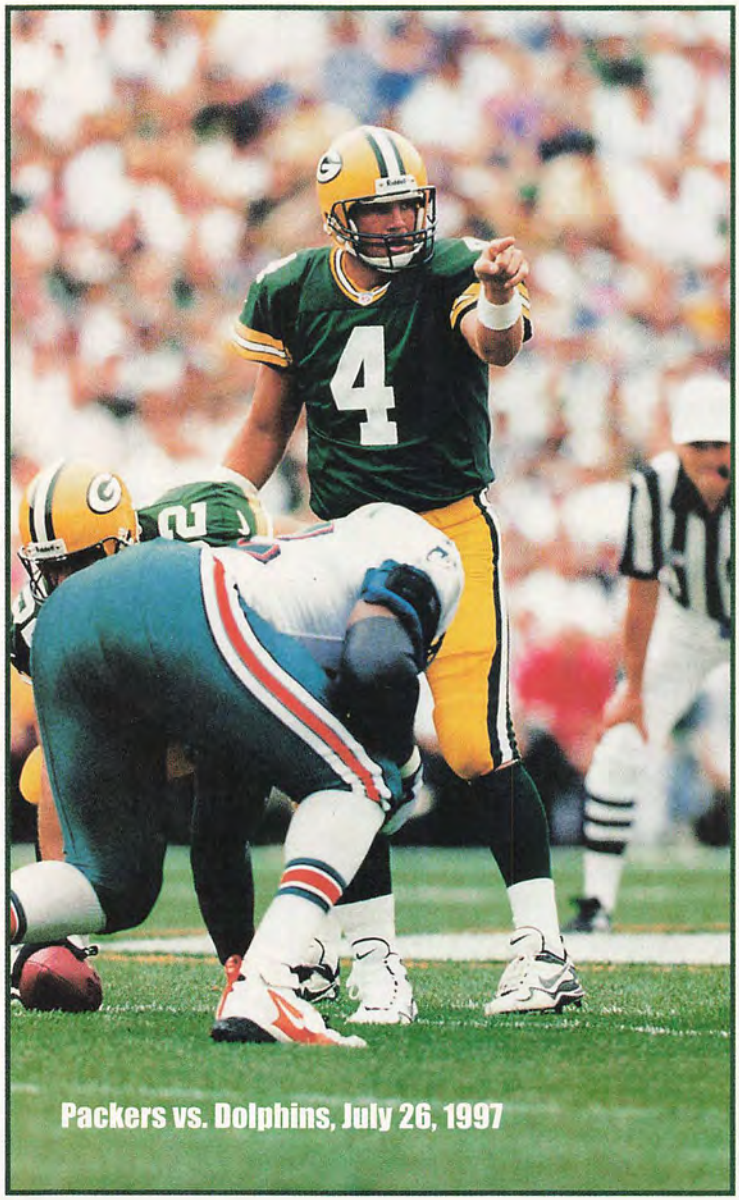
PACKERS GO 5-0!

GREEN BAY PACKERS
1997 PRESEASON RECORD: 5-0

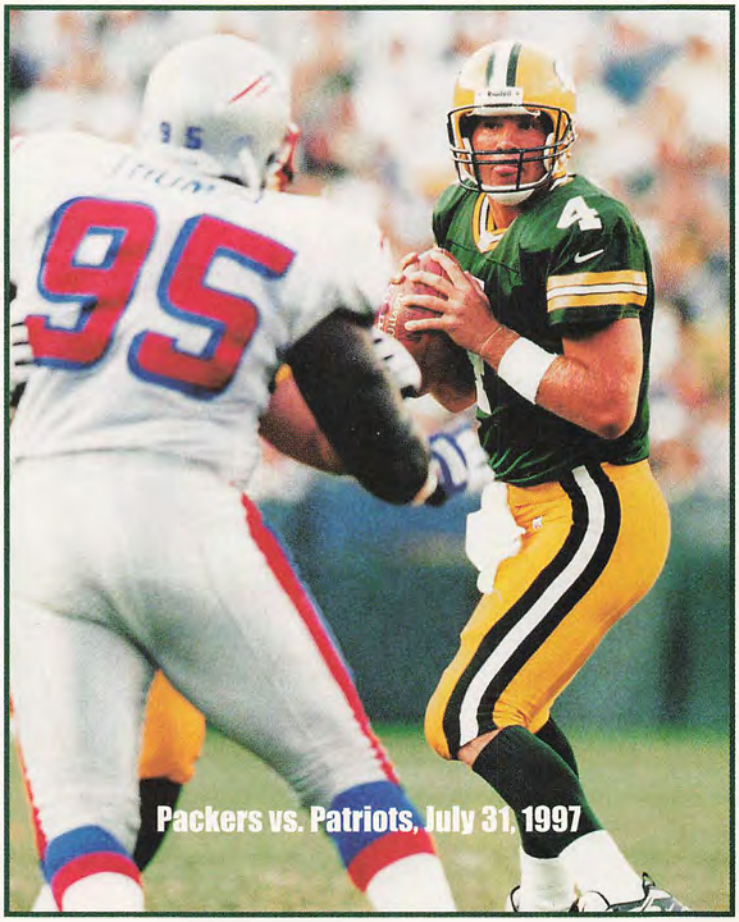
DATE	OPPONENT	RESULT
July 26	Miami Dolphins	WIN, 20-0
July 31	New England Patriots	WIN, 7-3
August 8	Oakland Raiders	WIN, 37-24
August 16	Buffalo Bills	WIN, 35-3
August 22	New York Giants	WIN, 22-17

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS
1997 PRESEASON

Pass Attempts	56
Pass Completions	33
Total Passing Yards	429
Passing Yards Per Attempt	7.66
Completion Percentage	58.9
Passing Touchdowns	3
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	38



Packers vs. Dolphins, July 26, 1997



Packers vs. Patriots, July 31, 1997

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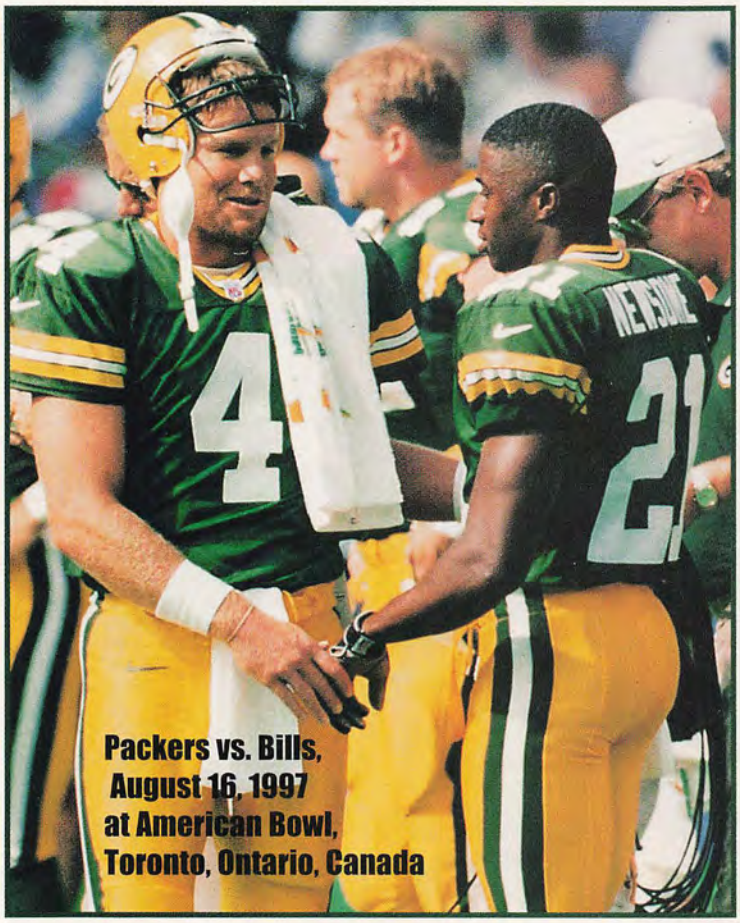
Packers vs. Raiders, August 8, 1997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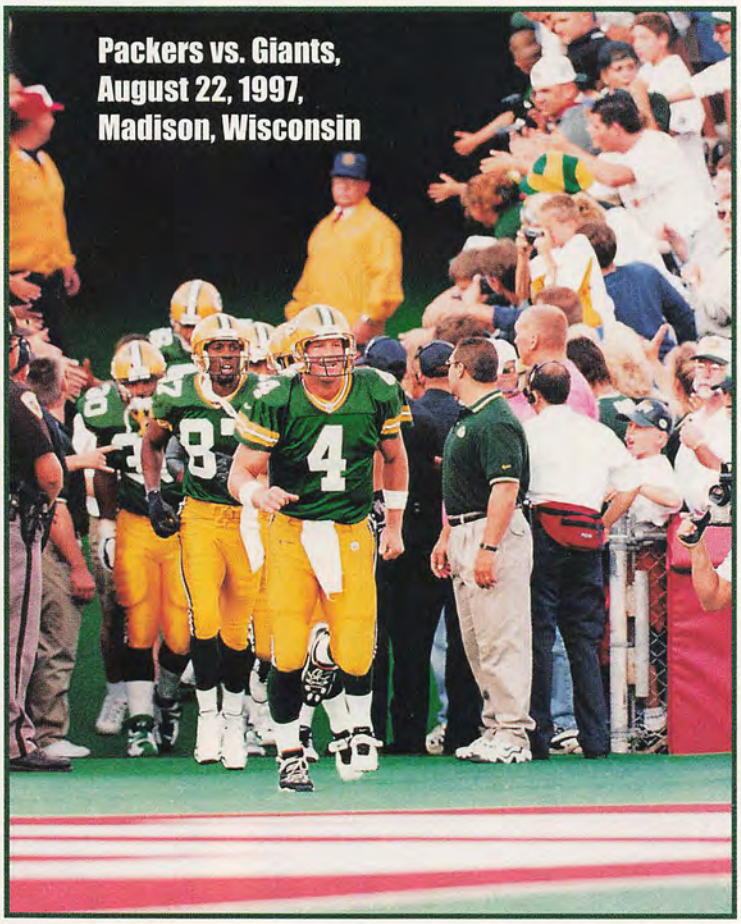
Packers vs. Bills,
August 16, 1997
at American Bowl,
Toronto, Ontario, Canada


Packers vs. Giants,
August 22, 1997,
Madison, Wisconsin
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Game 1: Monday, September 1, 1997

PACKERS 38, BEARS 24

Brett Favre threw for two touchdowns and rookie Bill Schroeder set up scores with three long punt returns as the defending Super Bowl champions overcame a sluggish start to defeat the Chicago Bears in both teams' season opener.

Two-time MVP Favre looked rusty early, but he hit backup tight end Jeff Thomason for a one-yard touchdown toss midway through the second quarter and found Robert Brooks for an 18-yard score 48 seconds before halftime to put Green Bay ahead to stay, 18-11. Favre was 15 for 22 for 226 yards in the contest.

Schroeder, who had spent the summer with the Rhein Fire of the World League, had punt returns of 46, 22 and 47 yards to set up three field goals by fellow rookie Ryan Longwell.

Dorsey Levens added a one-yard touchdown run, and defensive end Gabe Wilkins scored on a fumble return in the fourth quarter for the Packers, who stretched their home winning streak to 19 games.

Favre was intercepted by safety Marty Carter late in the second quarter, setting up a 42-yard field goal by Jeff Jaeger that lifted the Bears into an 11-11 tie. But Favre led Green Bay right down the field, moving 80 yards in 68 seconds for the go-ahead score. He connected with Brooks for a 44-yard gain to the Chicago 18 before finding him again for the go-ahead touchdown.

"I think we played fairly well tonight. We could've played better, but it was a typical Packer-Bear game. What more could you say."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	22
Pass Completions	15
Total Passing Yards	226
Completion Percentage	68.2
Passing Touchdowns	2
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	44
Rushing Attempts	7
Total Rushing Yards	18
Rushing Average	2.6
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	8

91

Game 2: Sunday, September 7, 1997

EAGLES 10, PACKERS 9

Packers rookie Ryan Longwell missed a 28-yard field goal with 11 seconds left, and the defending Super Bowl champion Packers lost to Philadelphia by a point.

The Eagles had taken their first lead of the game when Ty Detmer hit Freddie Solomon with a two-yard touchdown pass on fourth down with 1:56 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Bill Schroeder returned the ensuing kickoff 40 yards to the Packers 47, but Brett Favre threw incompletions on first and second down and was sacked by linebacker William Thomas on third down. Favre was able to connect with Antonio Freeman for a 28-yard pass on 4th and 16 to keep the drive alive.

Dorsey Levens ran the ball on the next five plays, getting Green Bay to the 10 with 15 seconds left. Longwell, a rookie free agent who was handed the kicking job when third-round pick Brett Conway was injured in the preseason, sent the field goal attempt wide right.

Favre completed 19 of 41 passes for 279 yards and an interception for Green Bay, which had a nine-game winning streak snapped. The Packers also failed to score a touchdown in a game for the first time since the 1992 season.

"It has been a long time since we lost a ballgame. There are a lot of good football teams in the league, and every week it is going to be a battle."

MIKE HOLMGREN

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	41
Pass Completions	19
Total Passing Yards	279
Completion Percentage	46.3
Passing Touchdowns	0
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	30
Rushing Attempts	0
Total Rushing Yards	0
Rushing Average	0.0
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	0

78

Game 3 : Sunday, September 14, 1997

PACKERS 23, DOLPHINS 18

Brett Favre threw two touchdown passes and Dorsey Levens rushed for a career-high 121 yards as the Packers beat the Dolphins for the first time in team history. The Packers had been 0-8 against Miami, including two losses at Lambeau Field and one at County Stadium in Milwaukee.

Miami took its last lead at 12-10 after a 34-yard field goal on its first possession of the second half. The Packers, however, responded with a 16-play, 78-yard drive that took nine minutes. Favre found Antonio Freeman for 21 yards on a third down and kept the drive alive with a quarterback sneak on 4th and 1 from the Miami 18. Dorsey Levens slipped on a screen pass on 3rd and 2, forcing a 24-yard field goal that made it 13-12 with 2:36 remaining in the third quarter.

Another field goal pushed the lead to 16-12 eight seconds into the final quarter, and Green Bay went up 23-12 when Favre found William Henderson on the left side and he ran in for a 10-yard score. Favre was 7 for 8 for 47 yards on the drive, which took 12 plays and used up nearly seven minutes.

Favre finished the contest with 24 completions out of 37 attempts for 253 yards and two touchdowns. The performance was Favre's third in a row with at least 225 yards passing.

"Mark Chmura is one of the leaders on our team. The fact that he came back from his medical problem was a real plus for us today."

MIKE HOLMGREN

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	37
Pass Completions	24
Total Passing Yards	253
Completion Percentage	64.9
Passing Touchdowns	2
Interceptions	0
Longest Completion	48
Rushing Attempts	5
Total Rushing Yards	11
Rushing Average	2.2
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	9

MARINO
13

Game 4: Sunday, September 21, 1997

PACKERS 38, VIKINGS 32

Brett Favre threw five touchdown passes – including four in the first half – to become the team's all-time TD leader as the Packers built a 24-point halftime lead and withstood a huge second-half Minnesota rally to hold off the Vikings.

Favre's 28-yard scoring pass to Antonio Freeman 4:09 into the second quarter was his 152nd career TD toss, passing the mark held by Hall of Famer Bart Starr. Favre needed only 83 regular-season games with the Packers to break the mark Starr set playing 191 games for Green Bay from 1956 to 1971.

The Packers, who began a four-game stretch against NFC Central Division opponents, extended their regular-season winning streak at Lambeau Field to 18 games with the triumph over Minnesota.

Favre completed 18 of 31 passes for 266 yards, and Freeman hauled in seven catches for 122 yards. Robert Brooks added five receptions for 92 yards and a score, while Dorsey Levens rushed for 79 yards.

Green Bay had a 31-7 halftime lead, but the Vikings roared back to make it 31-22 at only the 10:20 mark of the third period. On the Packers' next drive, however, Favre completed passes of 25 and 19 yards to Freeman and then found tight end Mark Chmura for a touchdown to make the score 38-22 with 4:41 left in the third. Those were all the points Green Bay would need to secure the win.

"Brett was finding different receivers, which kept the defense off-balance. They played a lot of zone, and I was able to find the soft spots."

ANTONIO FREEMAN

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	31
Pass Completions	18
Total Passing Yards	266
Completion Percentage	58.1
Passing Touchdowns	5
Interceptions	2
Longest Completion	28
Rushing Attempts	4
Total Rushing Yards	10
Rushing Average	2.5
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	11

WHITE
92

Game 5: Sunday, September 28, 1997

LIONS 26, PACKERS 15

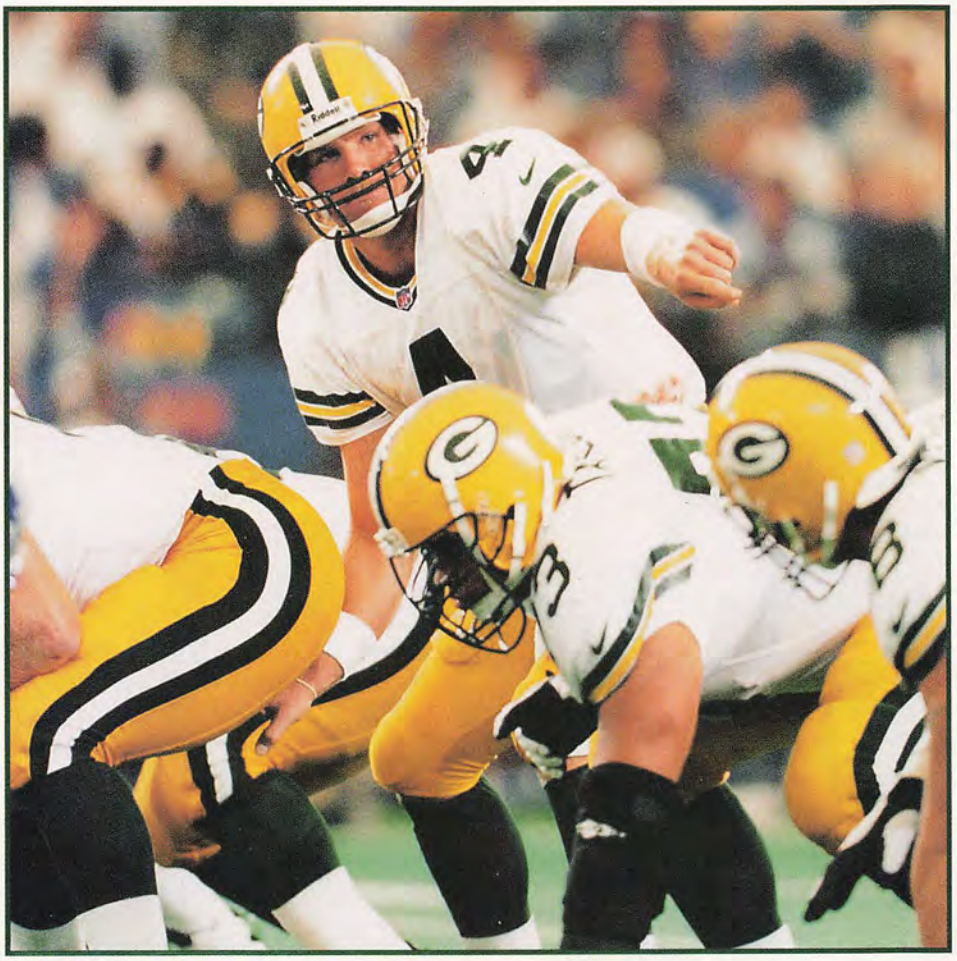
Barry Sanders rushed for 139 yards as the Lions surprised the Packers. Detroit QB Scott Mitchell had a four-yard touchdown pass and linebacker Reggie Brown ran an interception back 45 yards for a score for Detroit, which forced four turnovers.

Green Bay took a 6-0 lead in the first quarter as Ryan Longwell booted field goals of 36 and 19 yards in a 5:12 span, but the Packers struggled after that. On one pivotal play, Brett Favre tripped as he dropped back to pass. Rather than get up or take the sack, he chose to throw a pass from his knees. Brown batted it in the air, caught it and outraced the Green Bay offense to the end zone for his second touchdown of the season.

The Packers started the second half with an eight-play, 54-yard drive that ended with Favre completing a seven-yard TD pass to Bill Schroeder that deflected off Antonio Freeman's shoulder and went almost five yards over to Schroeder, who happened to be in the right place at the right time. Favre's two-point conversion try fell incomplete.

Favre, who completed 22 of 43 passes for 295 yards with three interceptions and a touchdown, became the second-fastest quarterback to reach 20,000 yards, doing so in 86 games. Dan Marino accomplished the feat in 74 for the Miami Dolphins.

Robert Brooks also had nine receptions for a career-high 164 yards.



"You've got to give credit to the Lions. We gained a lot of yards, but we made too many big mistakes. We played too sloppy."

MIKE HOLMGREN

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	43
Pass Completions	22
Total Passing Yards	295
Completion Percentage	51.2
Passing Touchdowns	1
Interceptions	3
Longest Completion	45
Rushing Attempts	1
Total Rushing Yards	1
Rushing Average	1.0
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	1

Riddell
NFL

Game 6: Sunday, October 5, 1997

PACKERS 21, BUCCANEERS 16

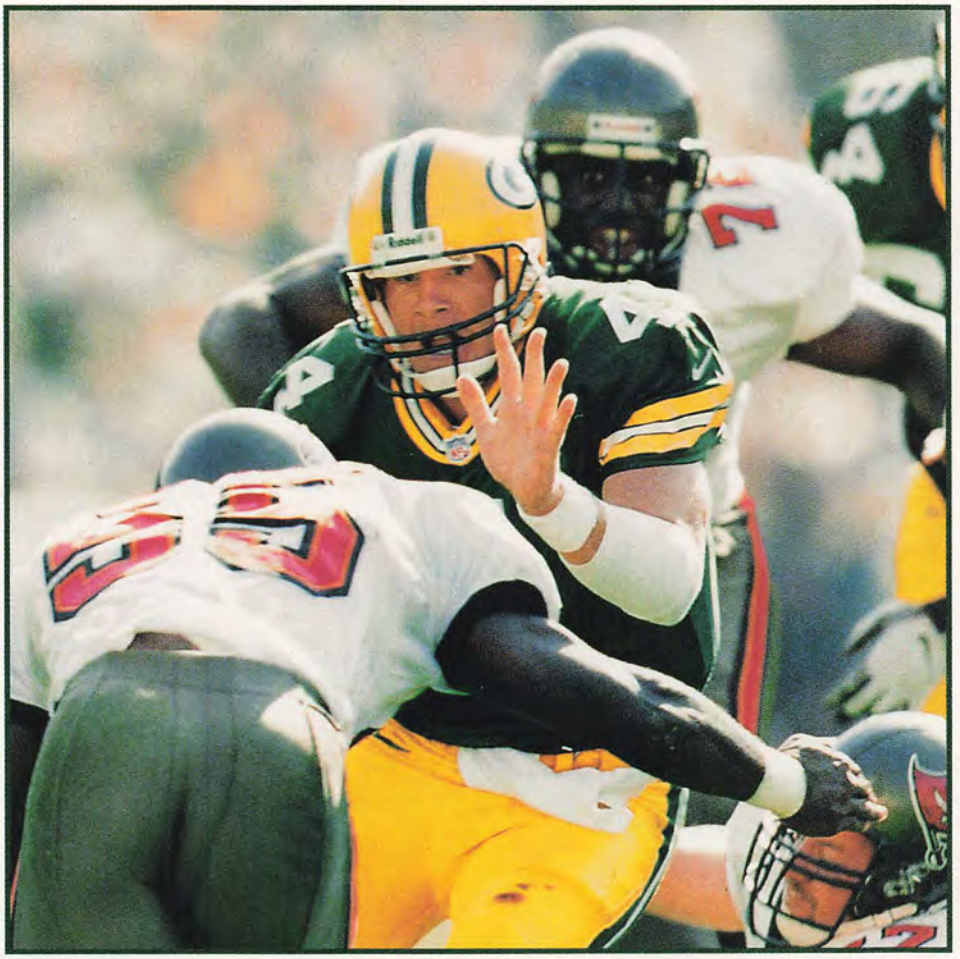
Brett Favre hit Antonio Freeman with a pair of scoring plays and defensive end Gabe Wilkins returned an interception 77 yards for a touchdown as the Packers held on to defeat division rival Tampa Bay.

The Buccaneers entered the game as the only unbeaten team left in the NFC, but the Packers built a 21-3 halftime lead and then held off a second-half rally. The Packers increased their Lambeau Field winning streak to 19 games.

Favre, who completed 21 of 31 passes for 191 yards, connected with Freeman for touchdowns of 31 and six yards in Green Bay's 21-point second quarter.

The Packers defense set the tone early when linebacker Brian Williams recovered a fumble by Dunn at the Tampa Bay 35-yard line. Two plays later, Favre hit Freeman with a 31-yard touchdown 47 seconds into the second quarter to give Green Bay a 7-3 lead.

The Packers closed the half with a seven-play, 50-yard scoring drive that lasted just over a minute. Favre connected with Robert Brooks on a 17-yard pass to the Tampa Bay 6 and then hit Freeman with a touchdown on the next play with 44 seconds left to cap the 21-point second quarter.

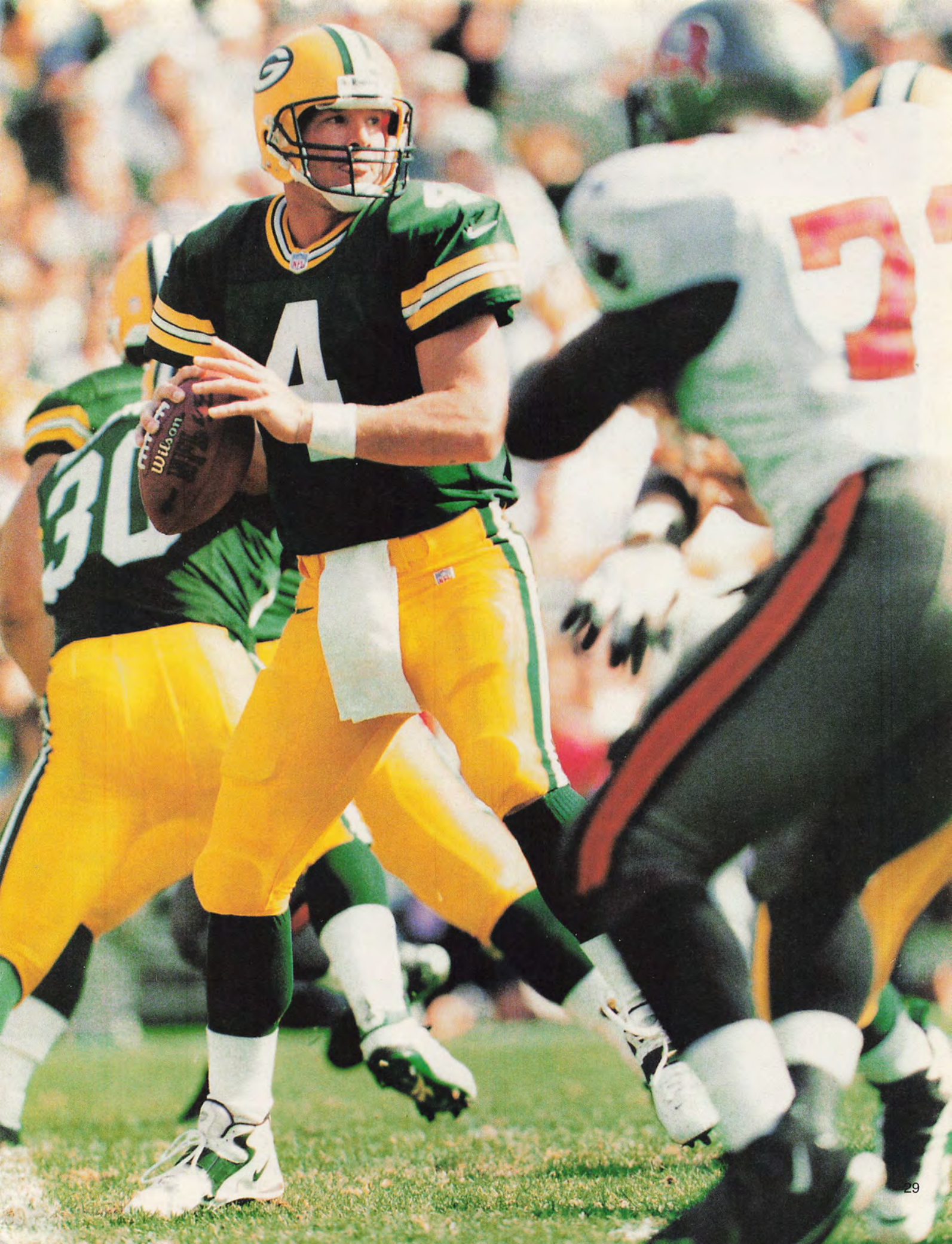


"The Buccaneers are a good football team. They're at a point where we were a couple of years ago. I'm surprised we jumped out to a 21-3 lead."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	31
Pass Completions	21
Total Passing Yards	191
Completion Percentage	67.7
Passing Touchdowns	2
Interceptions	0
Longest Completion	31
Rushing Attempts	4
Total Rushing Yards	17
Rushing Average	4.3
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	8


Wilson

Game 7: Sunday, October 12, 1997

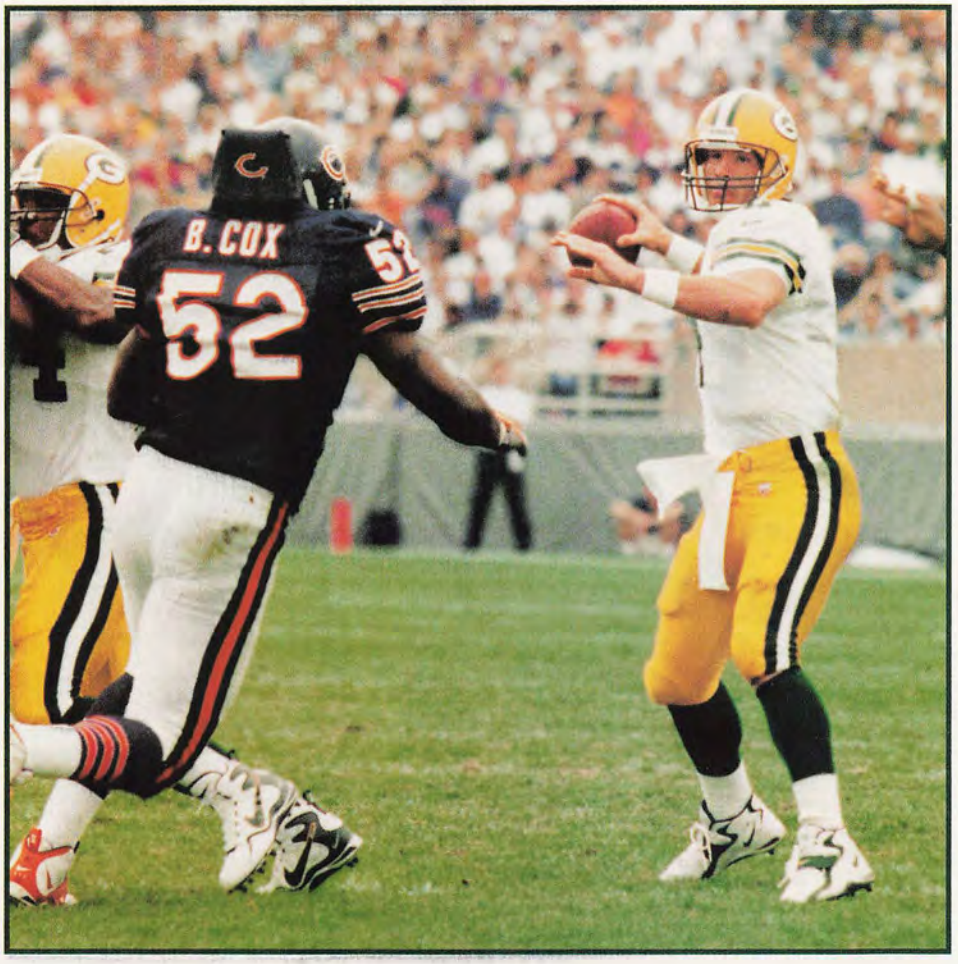
PACKERS 24, BEARS 23

The Packers escaped with a victory over the Bears after Chicago coach Dave Wannstedt's decision to go for a two-point conversion backfired with 1:54 to play.

After Erik Kramer completed a 22-yard touchdown pass to Chris Penn to cap a 63-yard drive, Wannestedt gambled and tried to get his team its first win of the season. But Kramer's swing pass to fullback Raymont Harris on the right side fell incomplete. The 0-7 Bears tried an on-side kick, but Green Bay tight end Jeff Thomason recovered it and the Packers ran out the clock.

Green Bay's defense made a goal-line stand midway through the fourth quarter, and an interception by linebacker Bernardo Harris led to a 37-yard field goal by Ryan Longwell with 2:38 to play.

Brett Favre threw three touchdown passes for the Packers, finishing the game with 177 yards on 19-of-35 passing. Dorsey Levens, meanwhile, suffered a sprained rib in the second quarter and did not play in the second half after gaining 74 yards on 12 carries in the first half.

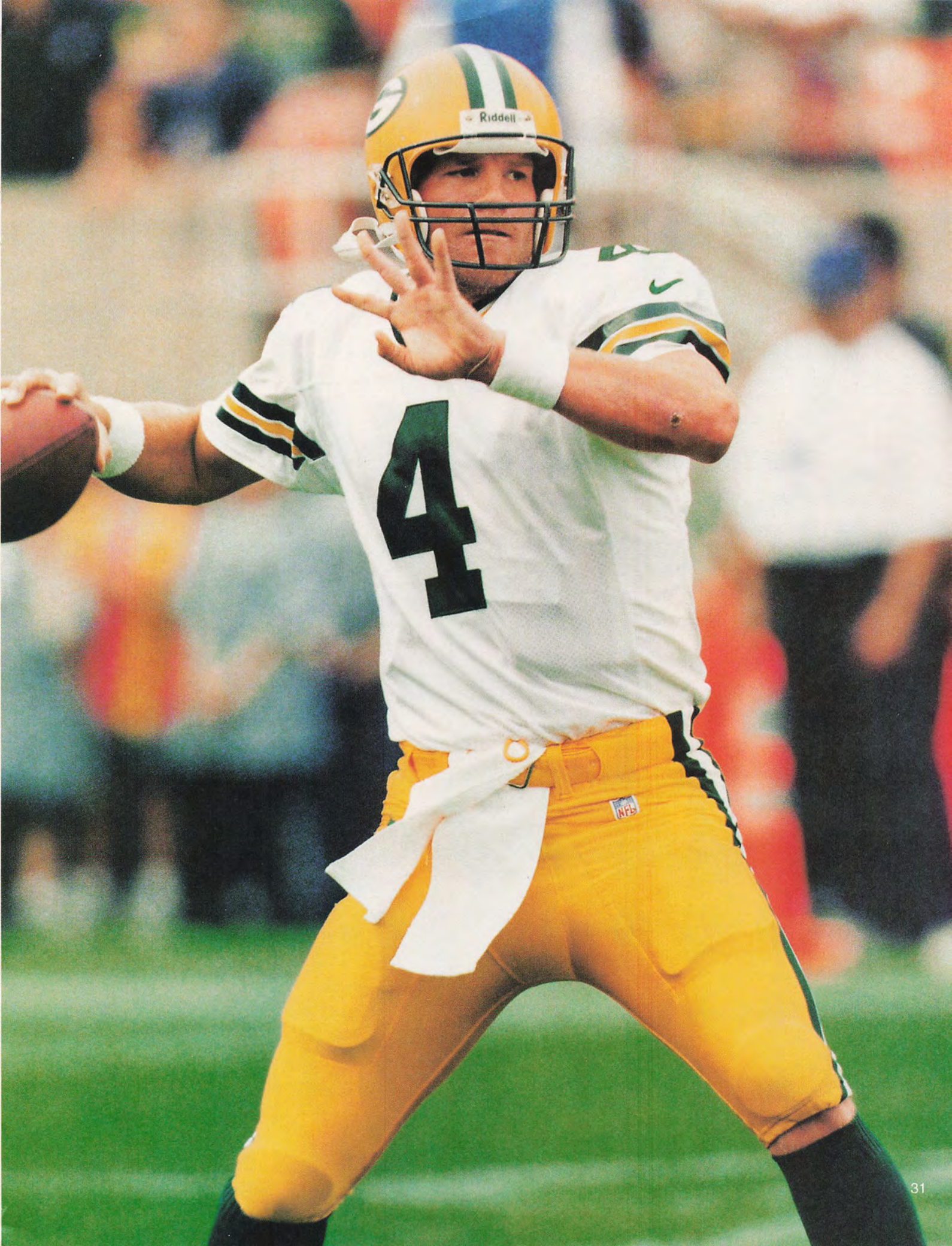


"It's a wonderful win. I told the guys the same thing today that I have told them all season – enjoy the win."

MIKE HOLMGREN

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	35
Pass Completions	19
Total Passing Yards	177
Completion Percentage	54.3
Passing Touchdowns	3
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	18
Rushing Attempts	4
Total Rushing Yards	5
Rushing Average	1.3
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	9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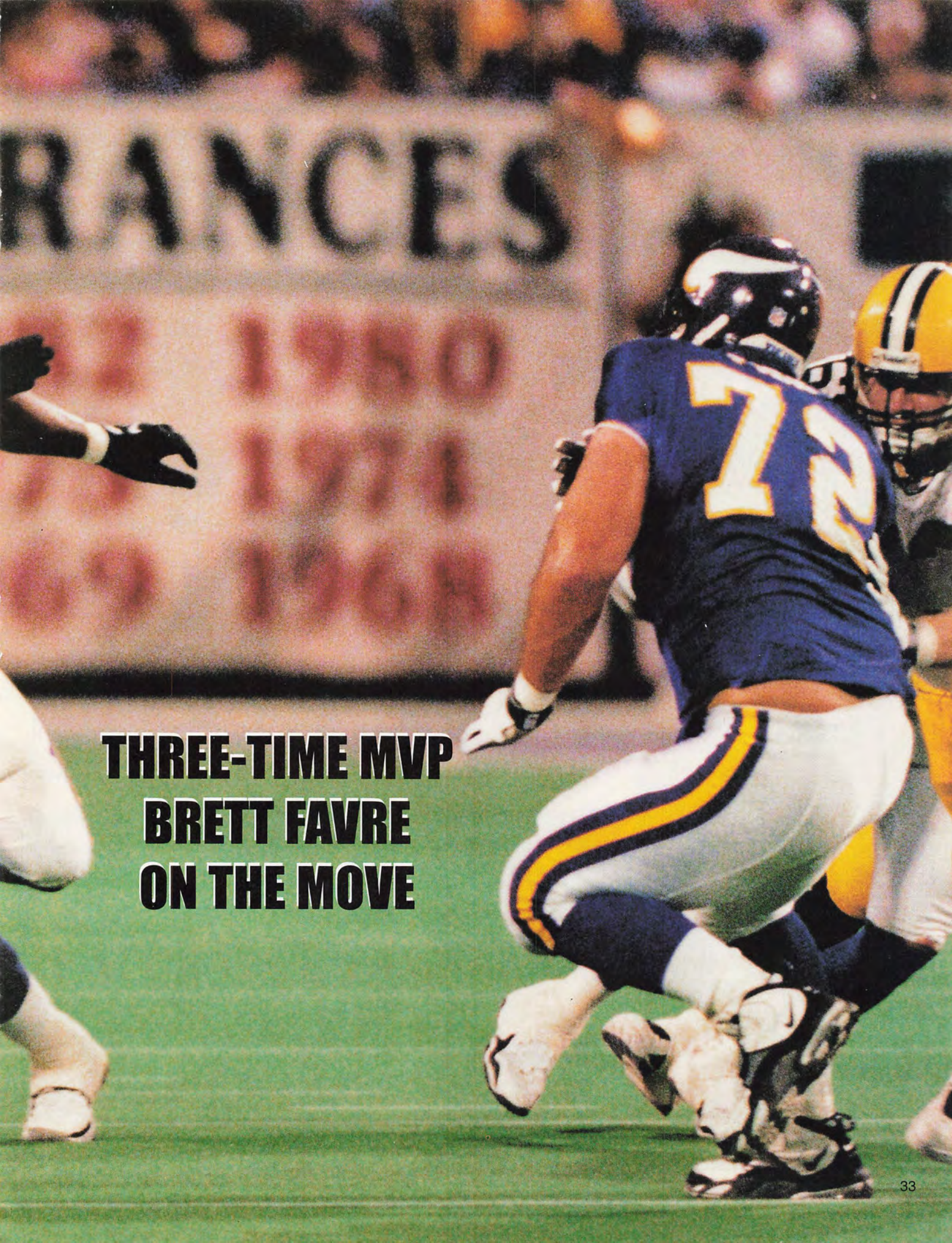


THREE-TIME MVP BRETT FAVRE ON THE MOVE

Game 8: Monday, October 27, 1997

PACKERS 28, PATRIOTS 10

Brett Favre threw three touchdown passes and Dorsey Levens added 140 yards of offense and two touchdowns as the Packers won the mega-hyped rematch of Super Bowl XXXI.

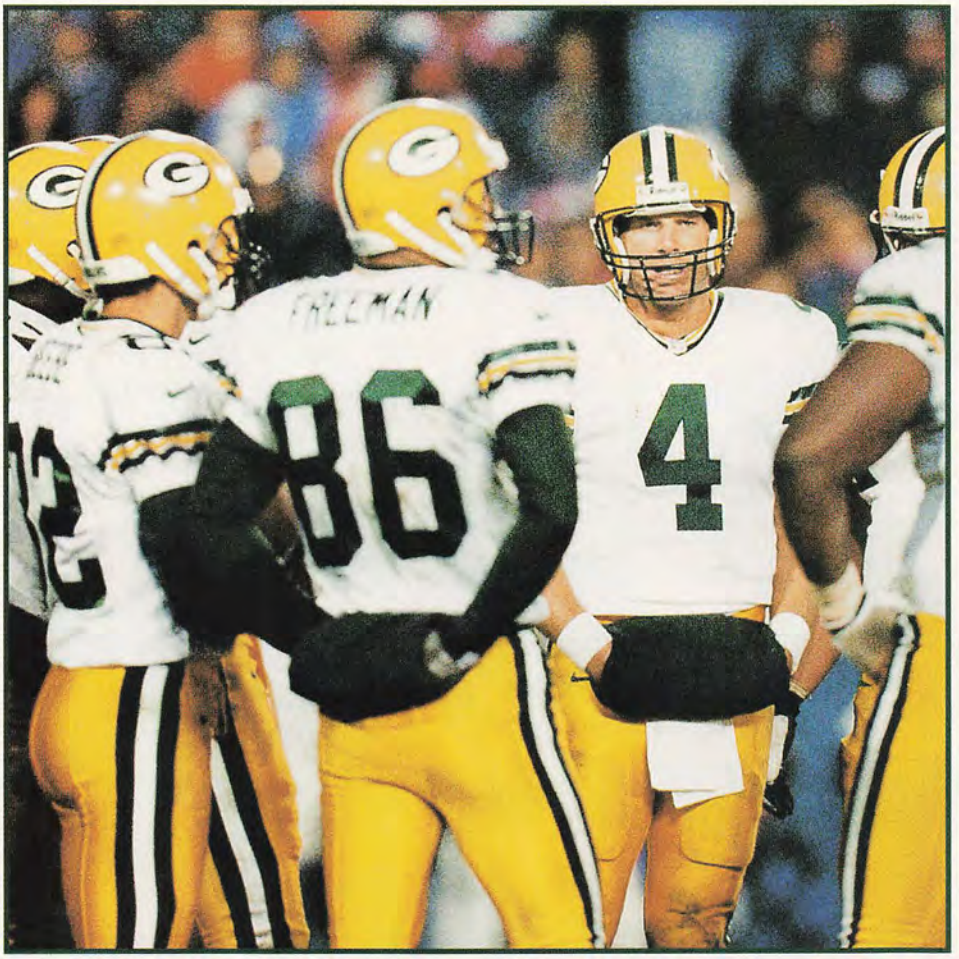
Favre continued his push toward a third consecutive MVP award by completing 23 of 34 passes for 239 yards. He threw touchdown passes to Levens, tight end Mark Chmura and Robert Brooks as the Packers moved into a tie with the Minnesota Vikings atop the NFC Central division.

Levens, who had been listed as questionable for the game after suffering a rib injury two weeks before, rushed 26 times for 100 yards and a score. He also caught seven passes for 40 yards and a touchdown.

Green Bay held a 14-10 lead at halftime before completing two long touchdown drives in the second half. With just under 10 minutes remaining in the third quarter, the Packers made a goal-line stand and took over at their own 1. Favre then led Green Bay on a 17-play drive that took 9:31 off the game clock.

Favre completed seven passes for 71 yards and added a key 16-yard run on 3rd and 12 on the possession, moving Green Bay to the New England 20. With 15 seconds left in the quarter, Favre's 20-yard scoring pass gave the Packers a 21-10 advantage.

Levens was the powerhouse on the other time-consuming drive that put the game away in the fourth. He rushed nine times for 54 yards on a 15-play, 85-yard drive that used up 7:24. Levens capped the drive with a TD run with 2:46 to go, giving Green Bay a 28-10 lead.

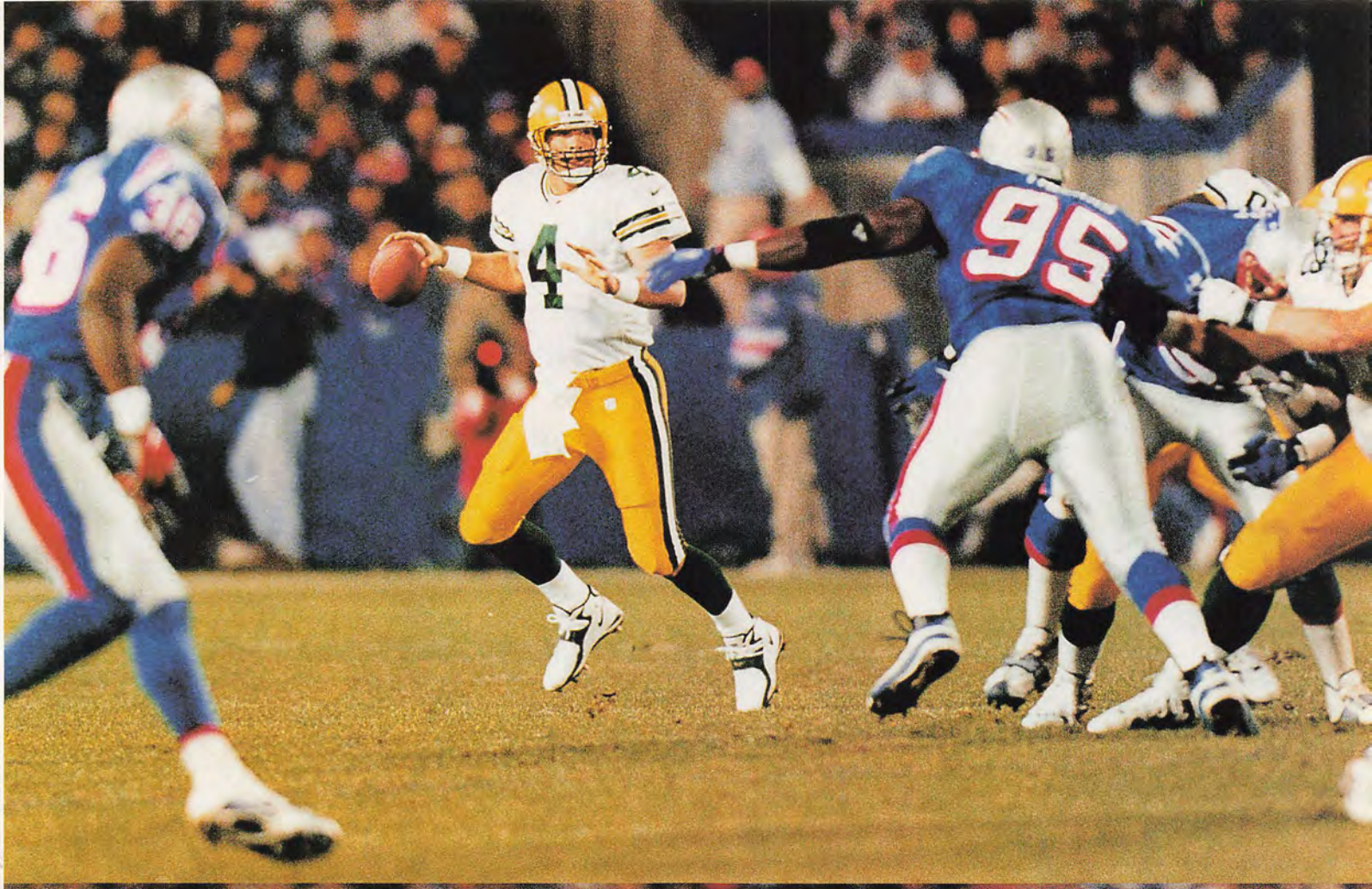


"I felt like it was my best performance of the year. We just made plays. We had guys on third down making big plays."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	34
Pass Completions	23
Total Passing Yards	239
Completion Percentage	67.6
Passing Touchdowns	3
Interceptions	0
Longest Completion	32
Rushing Attempts	9
Total Rushing Yards	32
Rushing Average	3.6
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	16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THOMAS
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Game 9: Sunday, November 2, 1997

PACKERS 20, LIONS 10

Defensive back Darren Sharper returned an interception 50 yards for a score and Brett Favre threw for 181 yards and a touchdown as the Packers won their 20th consecutive home game.

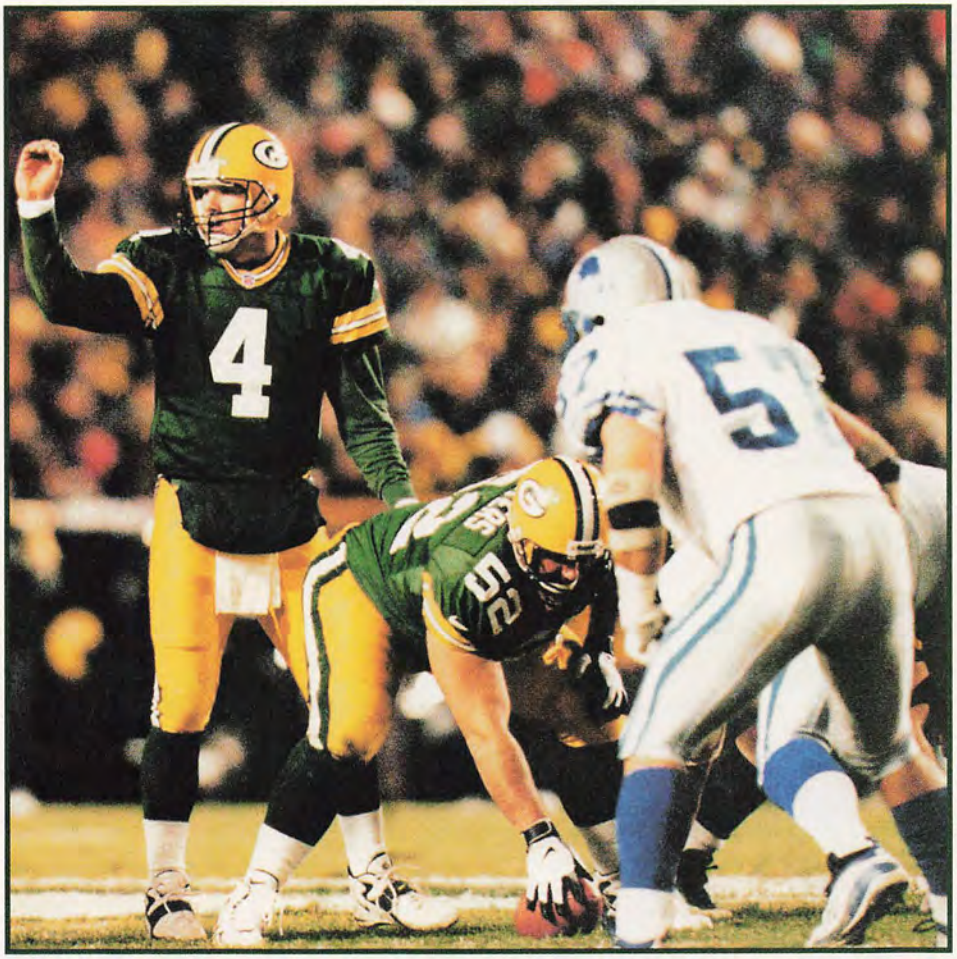
With the victory, Green Bay tied the 1929-32 Packers for the second-longest home winning streak in NFL history. The Miami Dolphins won 27 straight at home between 1971 and 1974.

After Detroit took a 7-0 lead on a one-yard touchdown run by Tommy Vardell, the Packers went ahead for good on a pair of second-quarter touchdowns. Favre found Robert Brooks with a 26-yard scoring strike 50 seconds into the quarter, and Sharper stepped in front of Scott Mitchell's pass intended for Herman Moore near the left sideline and returned it all the way for a 14-7 advantage.

Kicker Ryan Longwell sealed the victory with a pair of second-half field goals for Green Bay.

Favre completed 15 of 28 passes and was intercepted once, and Dorsey Levens added 20 rushes for 59 yards. Brooks added five receptions for 77 yards. Veteran safety LeRoy Butler led a solid defensive effort with nine tackles, two interceptions and a forced fumble.

In their effort to make a big fourth-quarter comeback, the Lions failed to convert any of their five third-down opportunities in the final stanza.



"Offensively we did enough to win. We could have done things better, me especially. But we knew it would be that kind of ballgame. Our defense played an exceptional game."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	28
Pass Completions	15
Total Passing Yards	181
Completion Percentage	53.6
Passing Touchdowns	1
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	28
Rushing Attempts	4
Total Rushing Yards	13
Rushing Average	3.3
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	13

Game 10: Sunday, November 9, 1997

PACKERS 17, RAMS 7

Brett Favre threw for 306 yards and a touchdown as the Packers overcame a sluggish first half to record their franchise-record 21st consecutive victory at Lambeau Field.

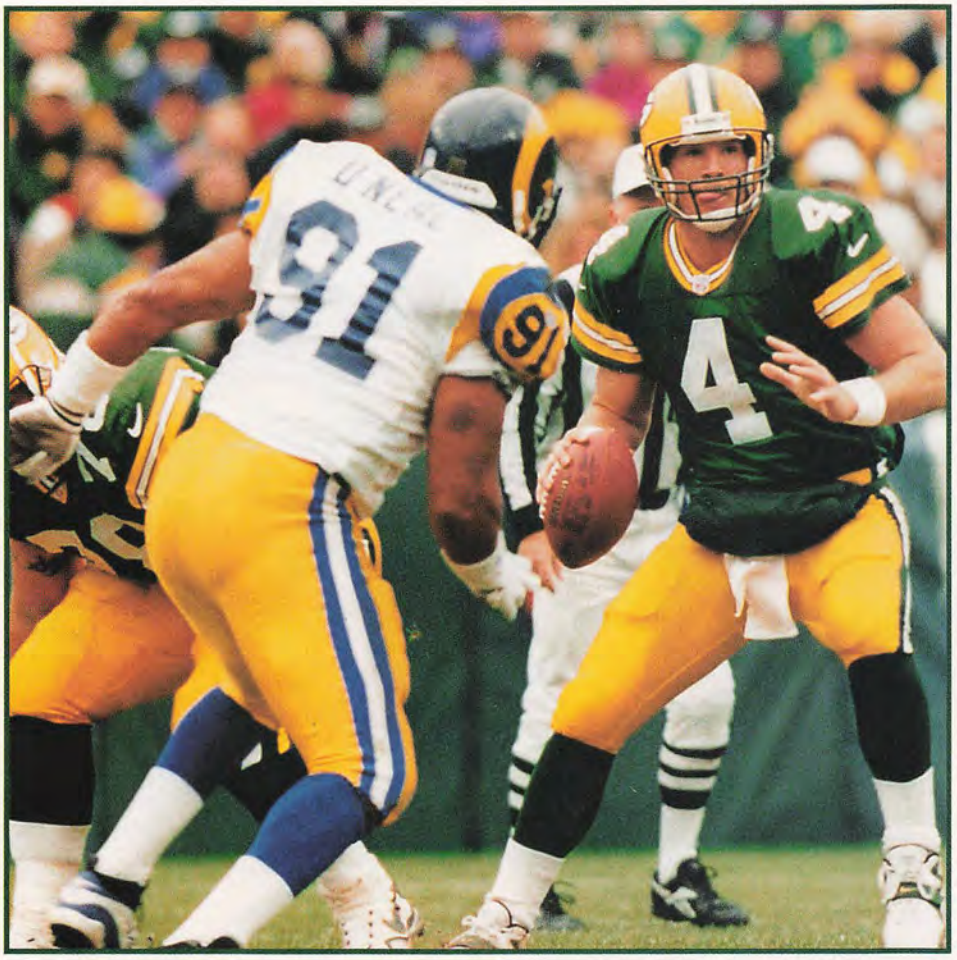
Antonio Freeman caught seven passes for 160 yards for the Packers. Favre, who recorded his first 300-yard passing game of the season and 15th overall, put the game out of reach with a seven-yard TD scramble seven seconds into the fourth quarter.

After a sloppy first half that ended with the Packers holding a 3-0 lead, Favre engineered a seven-play, 80-yard drive to start the second 30 minutes. He hooked up with fullback William Henderson on a 25-yard screen pass, a seven-yarder to running back Dorsey Levens and an 18-yard pass to tight end Mark Chmura. One play later, Freeman ran a flag pattern down the left side and beat cornerback Ryan McNeil to make it 10-0 with 11:26 left.

But St. Louis QB Mark Rypien responded with a 14-play, 75-yard drive for the Rams. St. Louis converted four third downs on the drive, two by defensive holding penalties against Green Bay. Lawrence Phillips capped the drive by slashing through a hole on the right side to make it 10-7 with 3:31 to go in the third quarter.

The Rams almost held Green Bay on the ensuing possession, but cornerback Dexter McCleon was called for holding on third down. One play later, Favre and Freeman hooked up on a 44-yard pass down the right sideline to the St. Louis 22. Favre followed with a 15-yard swing pass to Henderson, and two plays later, Favre scrambled through the middle into the end zone with 14:53 to play.

Favre, who tied Lynn Dickey for most 300-yard passing games, completed 18 of 37 passes and was intercepted twice. Levens finished with 81 yards on 21 carries for Green Bay, which finished with 387 yards of total offense.



"The Rams played hard; they put a lot of pressure on me. But we were successful throwing the ball downfield when they covered us one-on-one."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	37
Pass Completions	18
Total Passing Yards	306
Completion Percentage	48.6
Passing Touchdowns	1
Interceptions	2
Longest Completion	45
Rushing Attempts	4
Total Rushing Yards	15
Rushing Average	3.8
Rushing Touchdowns	1
Longest Rush	10

Game 11: Sunday, November 16, 1997

COLTS 41, PACKERS 38

Cary Blanchard's fourth field goal of the game – a 20-yarder as time expired – gave the Colts their first win of the season.

After the Packers tied the game on a 26-yard touchdown pass from Brett Favre to Antonio Freeman, the Colts went on a 73-yard drive that ended with Blanchard's fourth game-winning field goal of his career.

Colts quarterback Paul Justin, who threw for a career-high 340 yards, completed two passes to tight end Ken Dilger for 55 yards on the drive, including a 28-yarder to the Green Bay 1. Justin downed the ball three times to run the clock before Blanchard came on.

The Packers seemed on their way to a rout, racing to a 14-3 lead in the first 8:08 of the game. Running back Dorsey Levens caught a three-yard touchdown pass from Favre and raced 52 yards for a score around a 42-yard field goal by Blanchard. But Indianapolis responded with three touchdowns in an 8:47 span bridging the quarters for a 24-21 lead.

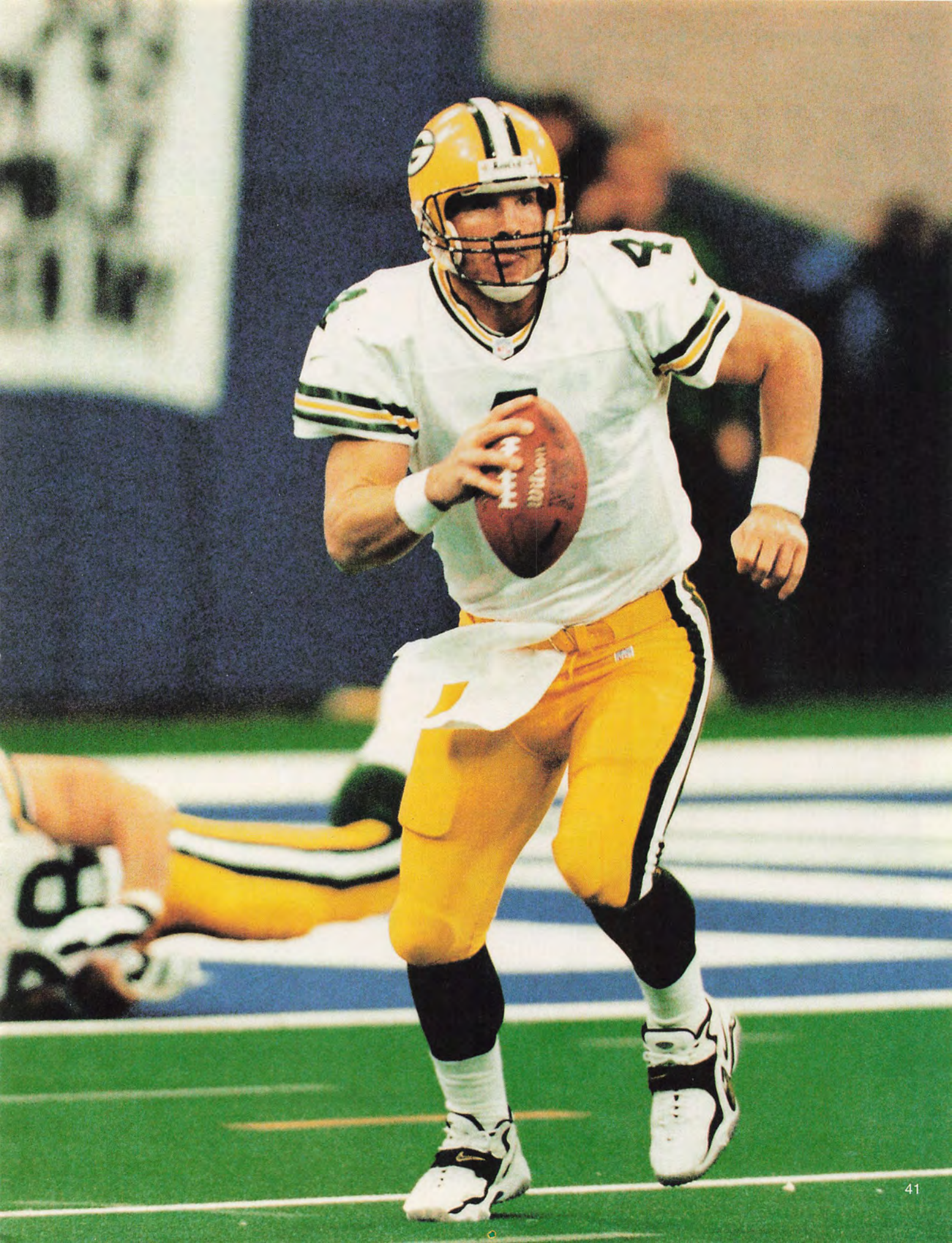
Favre completed 18 of 25 passes for 363 yards and three touchdowns for Green Bay, which became the third consecutive Super Bowl champion to lose to Indianapolis the following season. The Colts defeated Dallas last season and San Francisco in 1995.

"We felt we should have won. We put up a lot of points."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	25
Pass Completions	18
Total Passing Yards	363
Completion Percentage	72.0
Passing Touchdowns	3
Interceptions	2
Longest Completion	74
Rushing Attempts	1
Total Rushing Yards	0
Rushing Average	0.0
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	0



Game 12: Sunday, November 23, 1997

PACKERS 45, COWBOYS 17

Dorsey Levens rushed for a franchise-record 190 yards and Brett Favre passed for four touchdowns, including a pair to tight end Mark Chmura in the third quarter, as the Packers snapped an eight-game losing streak against the Cowboys.

Levens, who also set a career high with 33 carries and had two touchdowns, broke the single-game club record of 186 yards by Jim Taylor against the New York Giants on December 3, 1961.

None of Green Bay's eight previous losses to Dallas was at Lambeau Field, where the Packers extended their franchise-record home winning streak to 22 games. Green Bay was beaten seven times by the Cowboys over the last four years at Texas Stadium, including three playoff games.

The Packers took control of the game in the third quarter when they ran 25 plays to just three for the Cowboys. Favre, who completed 22 of 35 tosses for 203 yards, hit Chmura with scoring passes of four and two yards in the quarter to give the Packers a 24-10 lead.

Emmitt Smith scored on a 21-yard run to pull the Cowboys within 24-17 early in the fourth quarter, but Favre then directed an eight-play, 61-yard drive and capped it with a 23-yard touchdown to Antonio Freeman to restore Green Bay's 14-point lead.

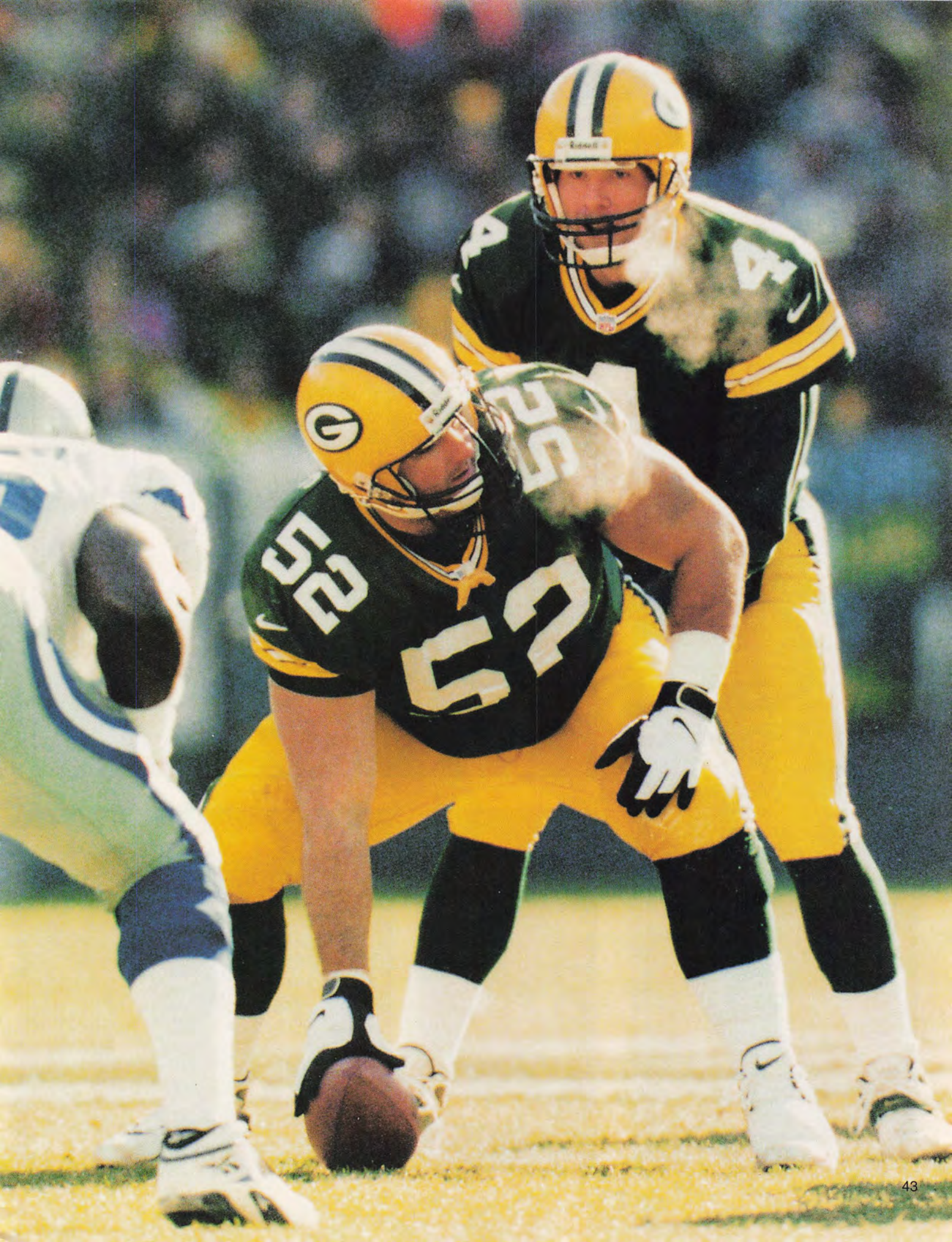
The Packers were 13 for 17 on third-down conversions and had 29 first downs to just 11 for the Cowboys.

"It's great to finally beat these guys. It's a shame it took so long."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	35
Pass Completions	22
Total Passing Yards	203
Completion Percentage	62.9
Passing Touchdowns	4
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	36
Rushing Attempts	3
Total Rushing Yards	21
Rushing Average	7.0
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	13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Game 13: Monday, December 1, 1997

PACKERS 27, VIKINGS 11

Brett Favre completed 15 of 29 passes for 196 yards and a touchdown for Green Bay, which ended a five-game losing streak at Minnesota.

Dorsey Levens ran for 108 yards and two touchdowns as the Packers became the second NFC team to clinch a playoff berth.

Levens carried 31 times and set a three-game team record by totaling 533 yards in games against Indianapolis, Dallas and Minnesota. Levens, who did not rush for more than 86 yards in a regular-season game before the 1997 campaign, passed the 100-yard mark for the sixth time in 1997.

The Packers took the lead for good when Favre completed an 11-play, 86-yard drive with an 18-yard touchdown pass to Robert Brooks for a 10-3 advantage with 2:10 left in the first half.

Later, cornerback Doug Evans intercepted a pass from Minnesota QB Brad Johnson and, five plays later, Levens scored from three yards out, giving the Packers a 17-3 lead 3:36 into the third quarter.

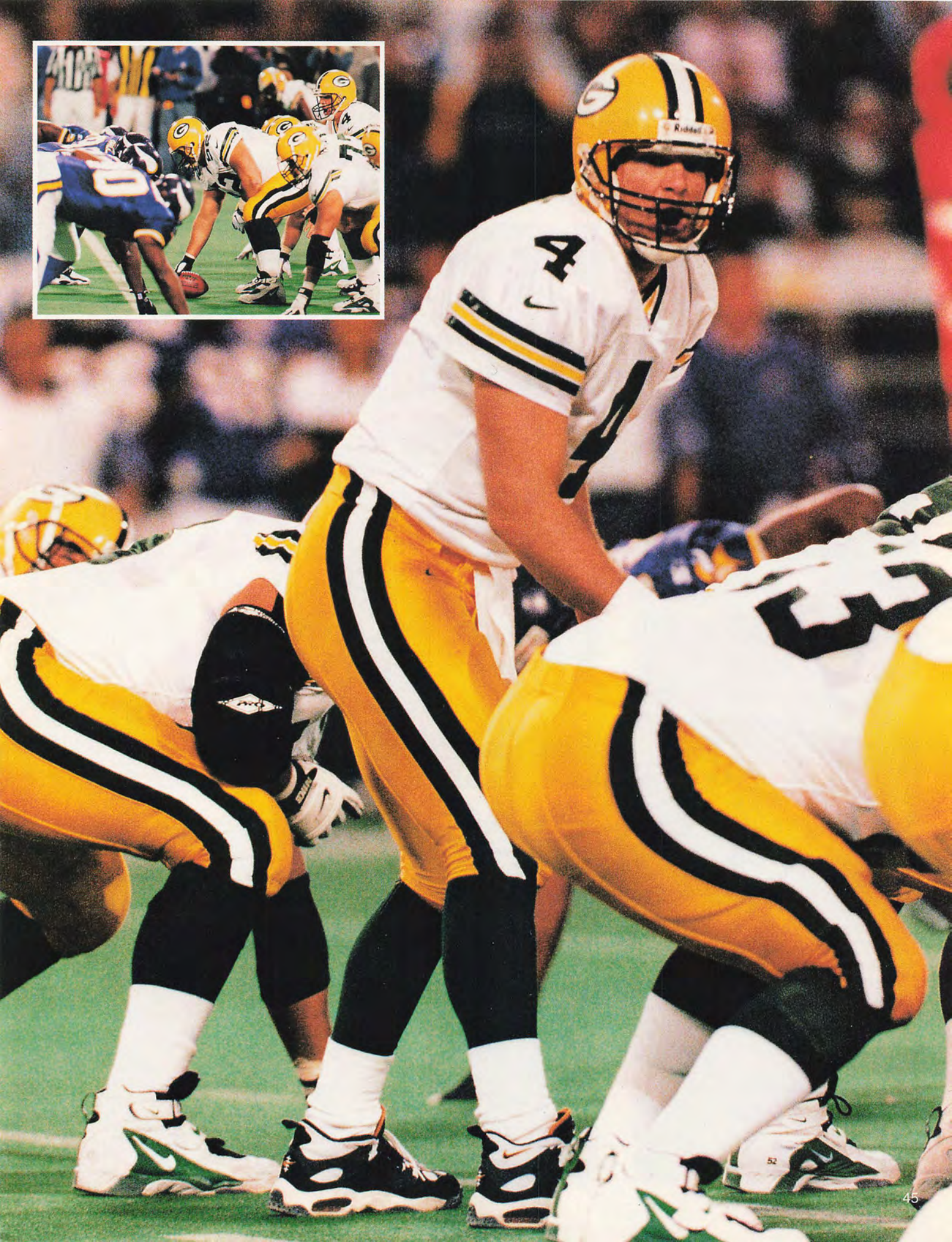
Defensive end Gabe Wilkins recovered a fumble by Johnson at the Minnesota 10-yard line to set up another score. After Levens was stopped at the 1 on a third-down pass, Ryan Longwell kicked a 19-yard field goal for a 20-3 lead just under seven minutes into the final period.

"Our offensive line did a heck of a job, and that was a big concern coming in. It was the best job they did all year. We controlled the ball, and when we had to score we scored."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	29
Pass Completions	15
Total Passing Yards	196
Completion Percentage	51.7
Passing Touchdowns	1
Interceptions	0
Longest Completion	31
Rushing Attempts	4
Total Rushing Yards	17
Rushing Average	4.3
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	12



Game 14: Sunday, December 7, 1997

PACKERS 17, BUCCANEERS 6

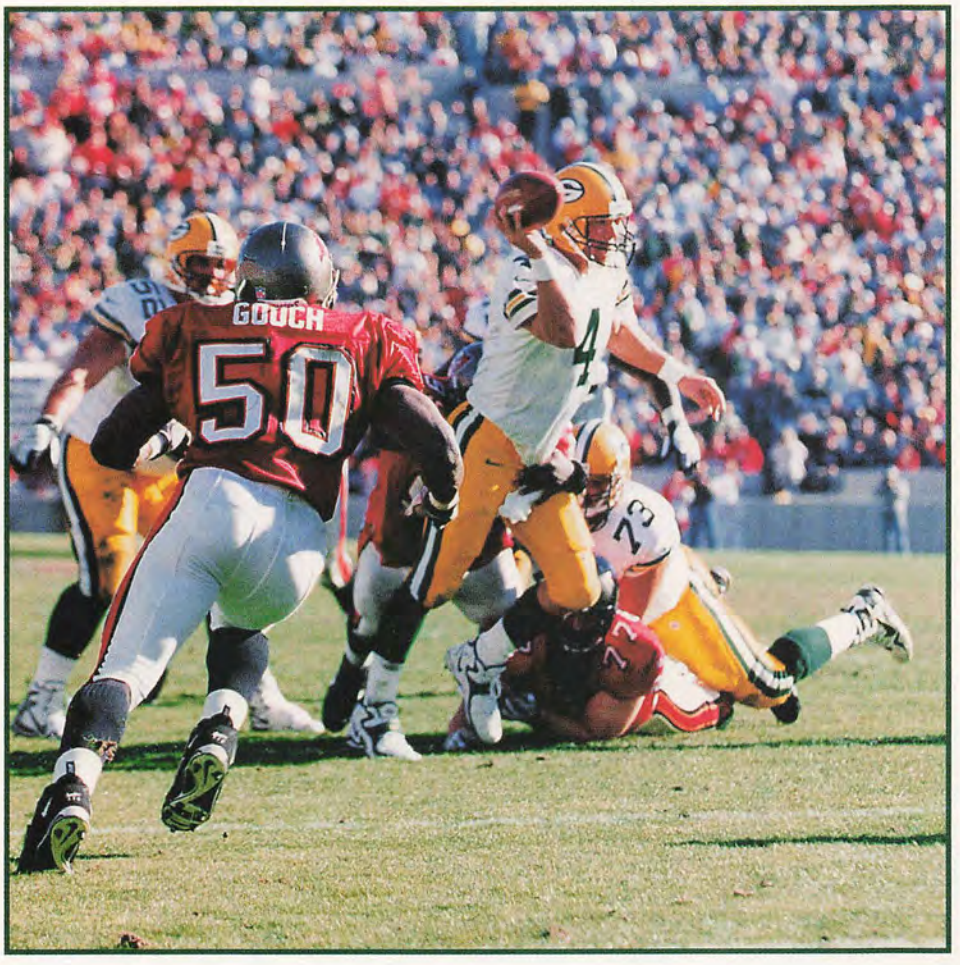
Brett Favre solidified his standing as an MVP candidate by throwing for 280 yards and two touchdowns in the Packers' win over the Buccaneers. With the win, the Packers clinched the NFC Central Division title and a first-round bye in the playoffs.

Favre, who became the first player in NFL history to throw 30 touchdown passes in four consecutive seasons, had a 43-yard touchdown pass to Robert Brooks in the first quarter and an eight-yarder to running back Dorsey Levens in the third quarter.

Tampa Bay, which was thwarted in its bid to clinch its first playoff spot in 15 years, was limited to three field goals by Michael Husted.

Green Bay ultimately crushed the Buccaneers' morale on a big possession in the second half, a 16-play, 88-yard marathon that took more than 10 minutes off the game clock. The Packers converted two third downs, and Tampa Bay committed a penalty for a third. Ryan Longwell booted a 27-yard field goal with 6:24 left to complete the scoring.

Levens, who had rushed for 533 yards in his previous three games, was held to 54 on 22 carries, but he also caught eight passes for 64 yards. Antonio Freeman added five receptions for 73 yards, and Brooks added three catches for 71. Green Bay outgained the Buccaneers, 362-161, and held them to eight first downs.



"Today's game was a good example of what being a team is all about. This is a tough division, very competitive."

MIKE HOLMGREN

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	33
Pass Completions	25
Total Passing Yards	280
Completion Percentage	75.8
Passing Touchdowns	2
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	43
Rushing Attempts	6
Total Rushing Yards	13
Rushing Average	2.2
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	7

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Game 15: Sunday, December 14, 1997

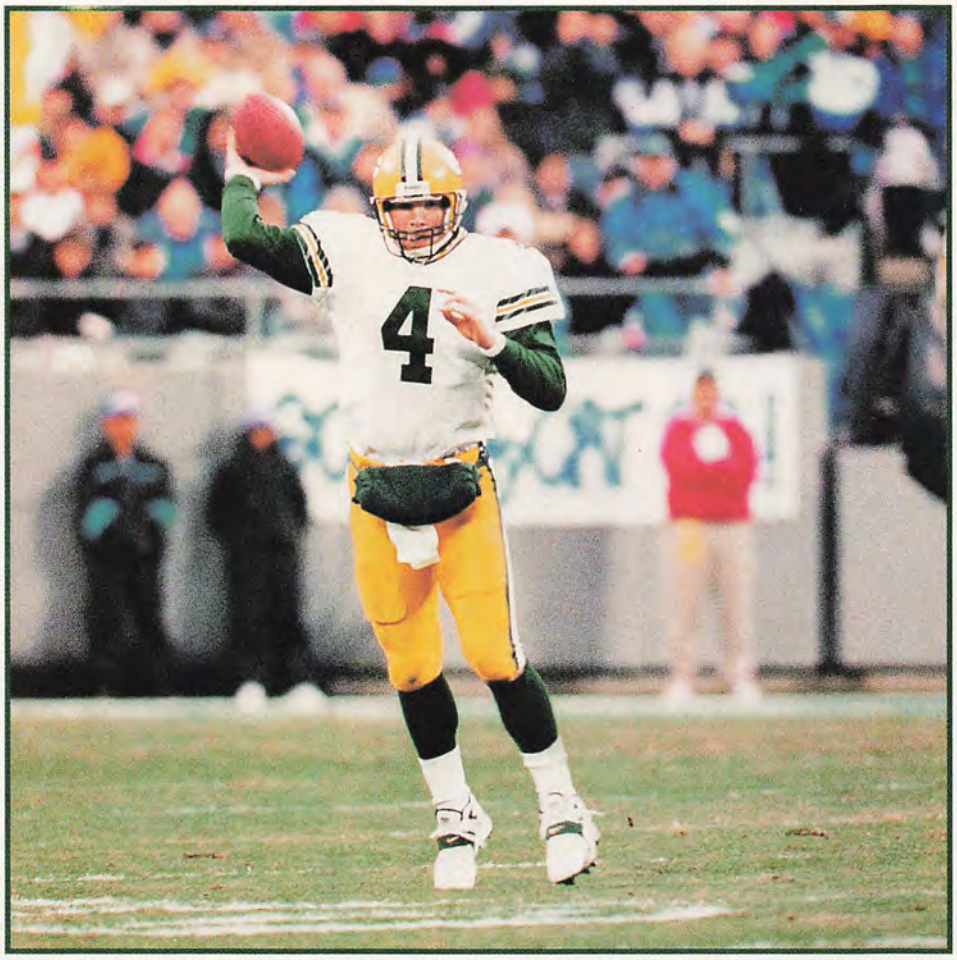
PACKERS 31, PANTHERS 10

Brett Favre threw for 256 yards and three touchdowns as the Green Bay Packers eliminated the Carolina Panthers from playoff contention.

Favre, who in the previous week became the first player to throw at least 30 touchdown passes in four straight seasons, completed 18 of 34 passes with an interception. Antonio Freeman caught 10 passes for 166 yards and two scores.

On Green Bay's second possession of the game, Favre tossed a 58-yard TD pass to Freeman for a 7-0 lead with 7:38 left in the opening quarter. Favre then completed an eight-play, 61-yard drive with a 20-yard scoring pass to Robert Brooks for a 14-0 advantage with 26 seconds remaining in the first period.

Then, Ryan Longwell kicked a 31-yard field goal to cap a 15-play, 61-yard drive and give the Packers a 17-3 lead with just over a minute left until halftime. Those 17 points were all the Packers would need to secure the victory.



"I think we mixed it up very well. When we ran the ball we ran it well, and when we passed it was either a big play or a touchdown."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	34
Pass Completions	18
Total Passing Yards	256
Completion Percentage	52.9
Passing Touchdowns	3
Interceptions	1
Longest Completion	58
Rushing Attempts	1
Total Rushing Yards	15
Rushing Average	15.0
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	15

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Game 16: Saturday, December 20, 1997

PACKERS 31, BILLS 21

Brett Favre passed for 156 yards and two touchdowns as the Packers built a 21-0 halftime lead en route to a 10-point win in their regular-season finale.

The Packers extended their Lambeau Field regular season winning streak to 23 games and finished with a 13-3 record, giving them back-to-back 13-win seasons for the first time in team history. Including preseason (four wins) and postseason (three wins), the Lambeau Field streak stood at 30 straight for the Packers.

Favre, who continued to be mentioned as a serious candidate for the league's MVP award, completed 12 of 18 passes in the first half and sat out the second half. Favre hit Antonio Freeman with a four-yard touchdown in the first quarter and connected with tight end Tyrone Davis on a two-yard scoring play in the second quarter to help the Packers open a 21-0 halftime lead.

Favre ended the regular season with 3,867 passing yards, second in the NFL to Jeff George (3,917). Favre led the NFL in passing touchdowns with 35, and he was fourth in the league in total completions with 304.

Favre also continued his cold weather domination. With the win over Buffalo, Favre held a 22-0 mark at home as a starting quarterback (18-0 regular season and 4-0 in playoffs) when the temperature at kickoff was 35 degrees or below.

"Their defense is the best run-stopping defense we faced. But we made plays when we had to."

BRETT FAVRE

BRETT BY THE NUMBERS

Pass Attempts	18
Pass Completions	12
Total Passing Yards	156
Completion Percentage	66.7
Passing Touchdowns	2
Interceptions	0
Longest Completion	38
Rushing Attempts	1
Total Rushing Yards	-1
Rushing Average	-1.0
Rushing Touchdowns	0
Longest Rush	-1

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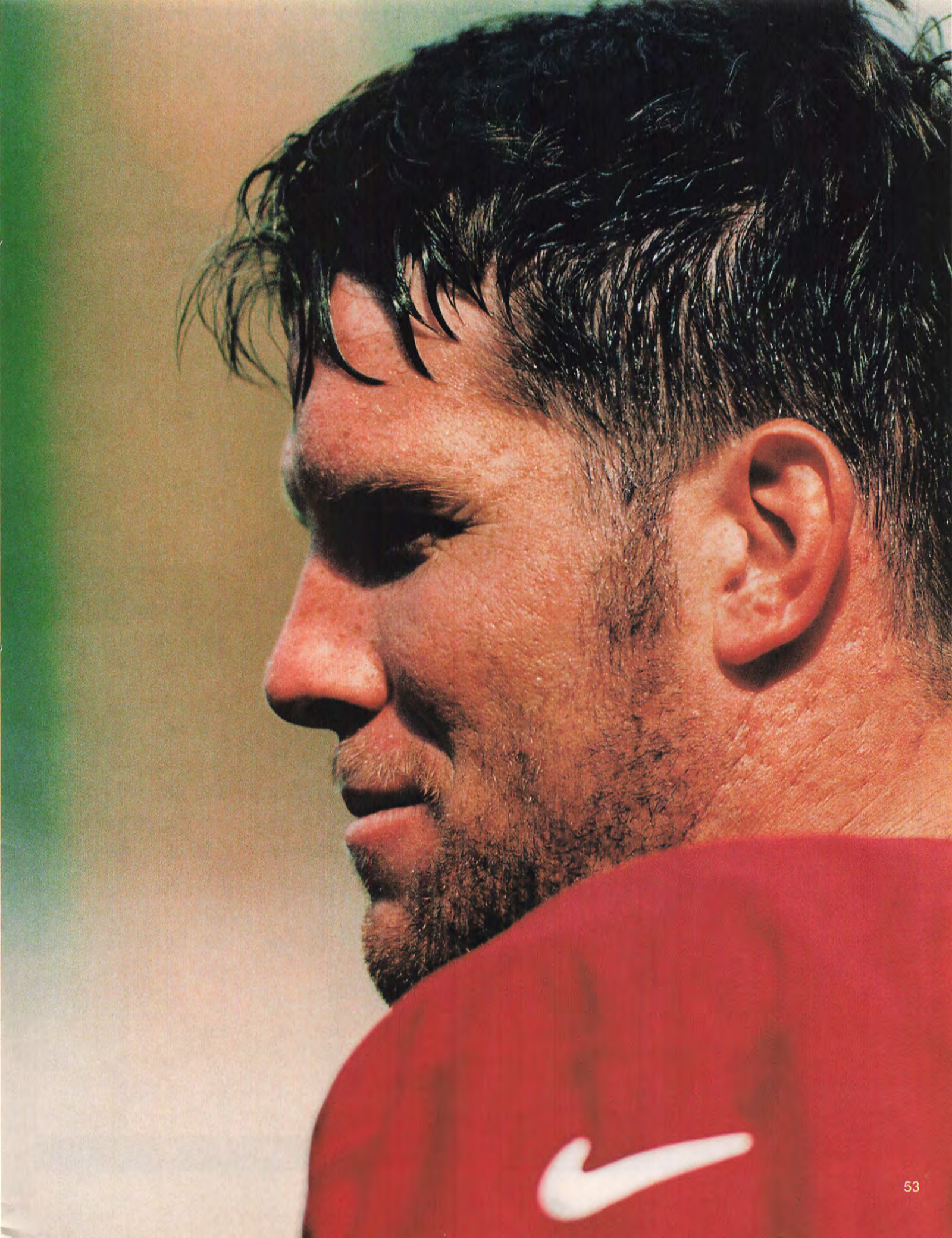
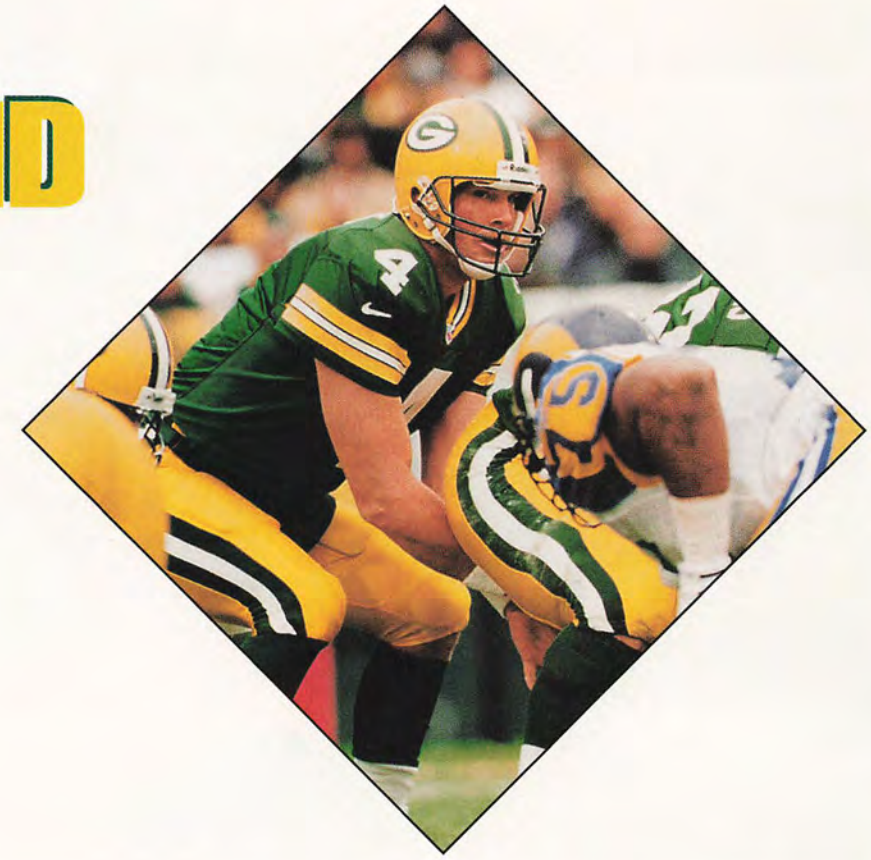
STATS FROM THE THIRD MVP SEASON 1997

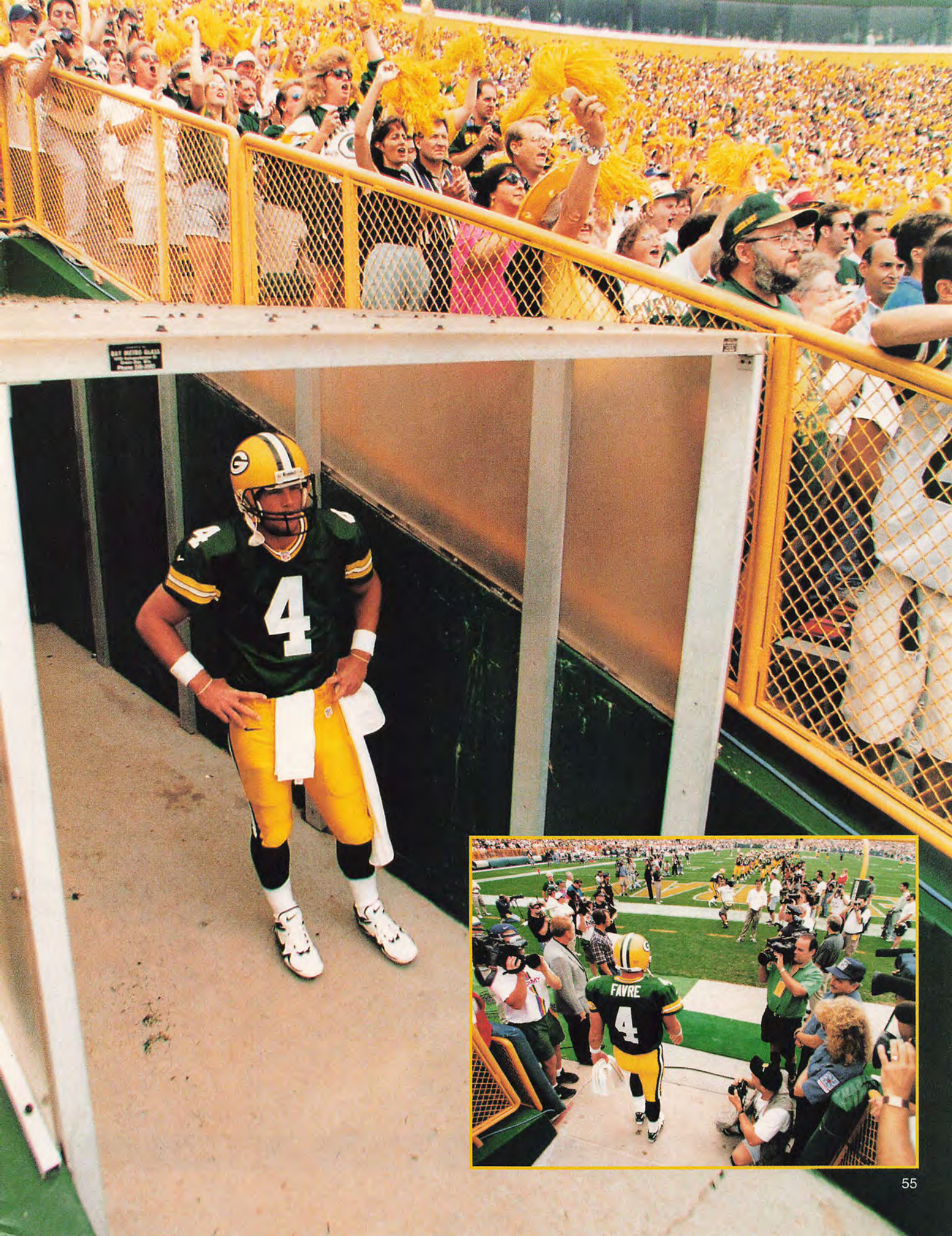
		Passing							Rushing				
Date	Opp	CM	AT	Yds	Pct	TD	IN	LG	AT	Yds	Avg	TD	LG
09/01/97	**Chi**	**15**	**22**	**226**	**68.2**	**2**	**1**	**44**	**7**	**18**	**2.6**	**0**	**8**
09/07/97	@Phi	19	41	279	46.3	0	1	30	0	0	-	0	0
09/14/97	**Mia**	**24**	**37**	**253**	**64.9**	**2**	**0**	**48**	**5**	**11**	**2.2**	**0**	**9**
09/21/97	Min	18	31	266	58.1	5	2	28	4	10	2.5	0	11
09/28/97	**@Det**	**22**	**43**	**295**	**51.2**	**1**	**3**	**45**	**1**	**1**	**1.0**	**0**	**1**
10/05/97	TB	21	31	191	67.7	2	0	31	4	17	4.3	0	8
10/12/97	**@Chi**	**19**	**35**	**177**	**54.3**	**3**	**1**	**18**	**4**	**5**	**1.3**	**0**	**9**
10/27/97	@NE	23	34	239	67.6	3	0	32	9	32	3.6	0	16
11/02/97	**Det**	**15**	**28**	**181**	**53.6**	**1**	**1**	**28**	**4**	**13**	**3.3**	**0**	**13**
11/09/97	StL	18	37	306	48.6	1	2	45	4	15	3.8	1	10
11/16/97	**@Ind**	**18**	**25**	**363**	**72.0**	**3**	**2**	**74**	**1**	**0**	**0.0**	**0**	**0**
11/23/97	Dal	22	35	203	62.9	4	1	36	3	21	7.0	0	13
12/01/97	**@Min**	**15**	**29**	**196**	**51.7**	**1**	**0**	**31**	**4**	**17**	**4.3**	**0**	**12**
12/07/97	@TB	25	33	280	75.8	2	1	43	6	13	2.2	0	7
12/14/97	**@Car**	**18**	**34**	**256**	**52.9**	**3**	**1**	**58**	**1**	**15**	**15.0**	**0**	**15**
12/20/97	Buf	12	18	156	66.7	2	0	38	1	-1	-1.0	0	-1
TOTALS		***304***	***513***	***3867***	***59.3***	***35***	***16***	***74***	***58***	***187***	***3.2***	***1***	***16***



STATS FROM THE SECOND MVP SEASON 1996



				Passing					Rushing				
Date	Opp	CM	AT	Yds	Pct	TD	IN	LG	AT	Yds	Avg	TD	LG
09/01/96	**@TB**	**27**	**20**	**247**	**74.1**	**4**	**0**	**51**	**1**	**1**	**1.0**	**0**	**1**
09/09/96	Phi	31	17	261	54.8	3	0	38	2	3	1.5	0	2
09/15/96	**SD**	**33**	**22**	**231**	**66.7**	**3**	**1**	**32**	**3**	**7**	**2.3**	**0**	**6**
09/22/96	@Min	27	14	198	51.9	2	1	80	2	25	12.5	0	23
09/29/96	**@Sea**	**34**	**20**	**209**	**58.8**	**4**	**0**	**28**	**5**	**15**	**3.0**	**0**	**6**
10/06/96	@Chi	27	18	246	66.7	4	1	50	3	15	5.0	0	13
10/14/96	**SF**	**61**	**28**	**395**	**45.9**	**1**	**2**	**59**	**6**	**24**	**4.0**	**0**	**12**
10/27/96	TB	31	19	178	61.3	0	1	26	7	2	0.3	0	2
11/03/96	**Det**	**35**	**24**	**281**	**68.6**	**4**	**1**	**65**	**1**	**1**	**1.0**	**0**	**1**
11/10/96	@KC	49	27	314	55.1	2	1	49	2	10	5.0	0	8
11/18/96	**@Dal**	**37**	**21**	**194**	**56.8**	**1**	**0**	**25**	**3**	**14**	**4.7**	**0**	**7**
11/24/96	@StL	38	25	192	65.8	2	2	14	4	0	0.0	0	2
12/01/96	**Chi**	**27**	**19**	**231**	**70.4**	**1**	**0**	**41**	**4**	**4**	**1.0**	**1**	**2**
12/08/96	Den	38	20	280	52.6	4	2	51	2	2	1.0	0	2
12/15/96	**@Det**	**25**	**16**	**240**	**64.0**	**1**	**1**	**40**	**2**	**3**	**1.5**	**1**	**2**
12/22/96	Min	23	15	202	65.2	3	0	37	2	10	5.0	0	8
TOTALS		***325***	***543***	***3899***	***59.9***	***39***	***13***	***80***	***49***	***136***	***2.8***	***2***	***23***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FAVRE
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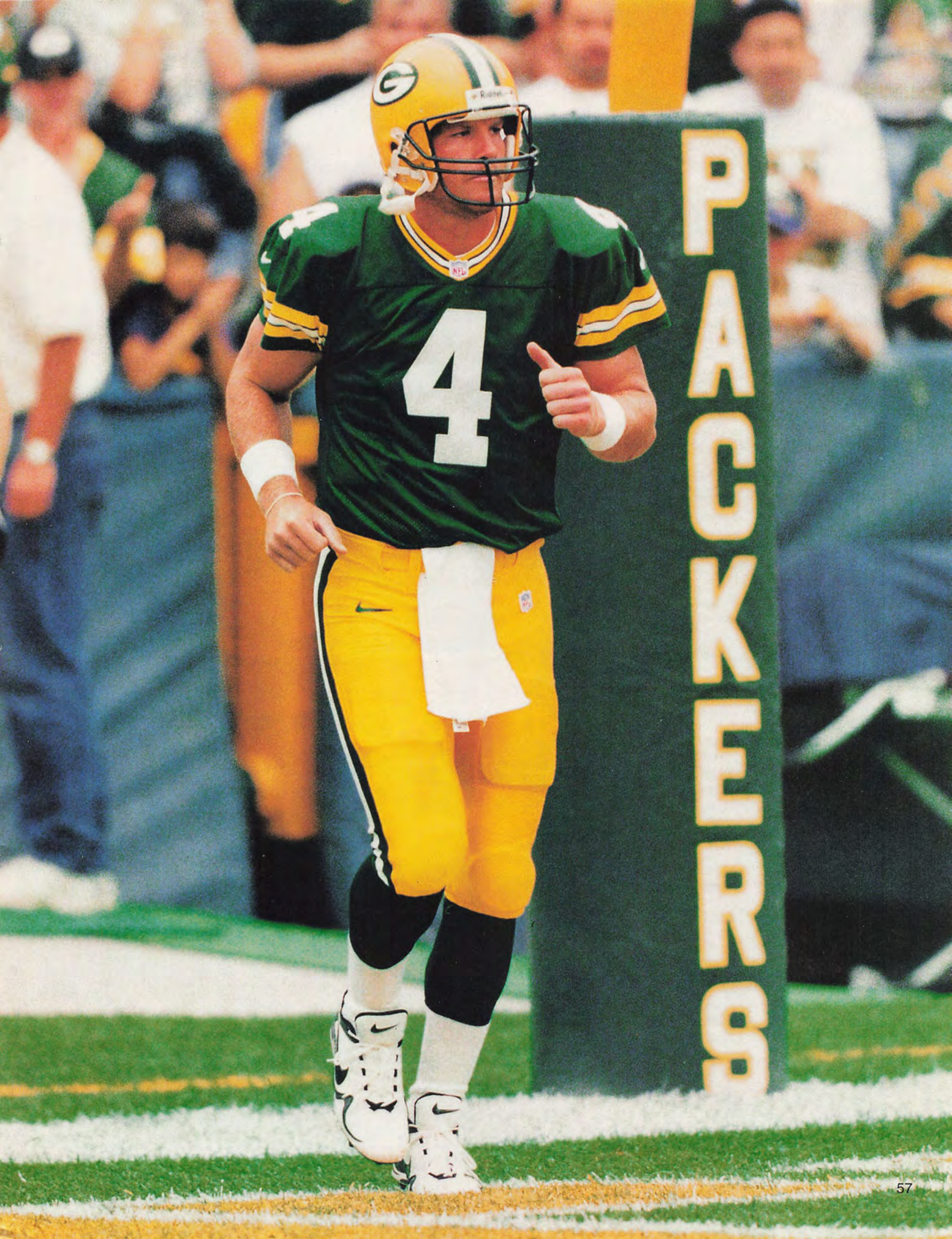
STATS FROM THE FIRST MVP SEASON 1995

		Passing							Rushing				
Date	Opp	CM	AT	Yds	Pct	TD	IN	LG	AT	Yds	Avg	TD	LG
09/03/95	**StL**	**51**	**29**	**299**	**56.9**	**2**	**3**	**29**	**4**	**27**	**6.8**	**0**	**11**
09/11/95	@Chi	37	21	312	56.8	3	1	99	4	7	1.8	0	6
09/17/95	**NYN**	**25**	**14**	**141**	**56.0**	**2**	**0**	**19**	**1**	**-2**	**-2.0**	**0**	**-2**
09/24/95	@Jac	30	20	202	66.7	2	1	29	2	39	19.5	0	40
10/08/95	**@Dal**	**41**	**21**	**295**	**51.2**	**1**	**1**	**30**	**2**	**25**	**12.5**	**2**	**21**
10/15/95	Det	34	23	342	67.6	2	0	35	5	12	2.4	0	15
10/22/95	**Min**	**43**	**22**	**295**	**51.2**	**4**	**0**	**32**	**1**	**4**	**4.0**	**0**	**4**
10/29/95	@Det	43	26	304	60.5	1	3	77	1	12	12.0	0	12
11/05/95	**@Min**	**30**	**17**	**177**	**56.7**	**0**	**2**	**21**	**1**	**2**	**2.0**	**0**	**2**
11/12/95	Chi	33	25	336	75.8	5	0	44	1	2	2.0	0	2
11/19/95	**Cle**	**28**	**23**	**210**	**82.1**	**3**	**0**	**27**	**5**	**-1**	**-0.2**	**1**	**4**
11/26/95	TB	24	16	267	66.7	3	0	54	2	18	9.0	0	12
12/03/95	**Cin**	**43**	**31**	**339**	**72.1**	**3**	**1**	**29**	**6**	**15**	**2.5**	**0**	**11**
12/10/95	@TB	46	27	285	58.7	1	1	35	0	0	-	0	0
12/16/95	**@NO**	**30**	**21**	**308**	**70.0**	**4**	**0**	**40**	**1**	**15**	**15.0**	**0**	**15**
12/24/95	Pit	32	23	301	71.9	2	0	28	3	6	2.0	0	8
TOTALS		***570***	***359***	***4413***	***63.0***	***38***	***13***	***99***	***39***	***181***	***4.6***	***3***	***40***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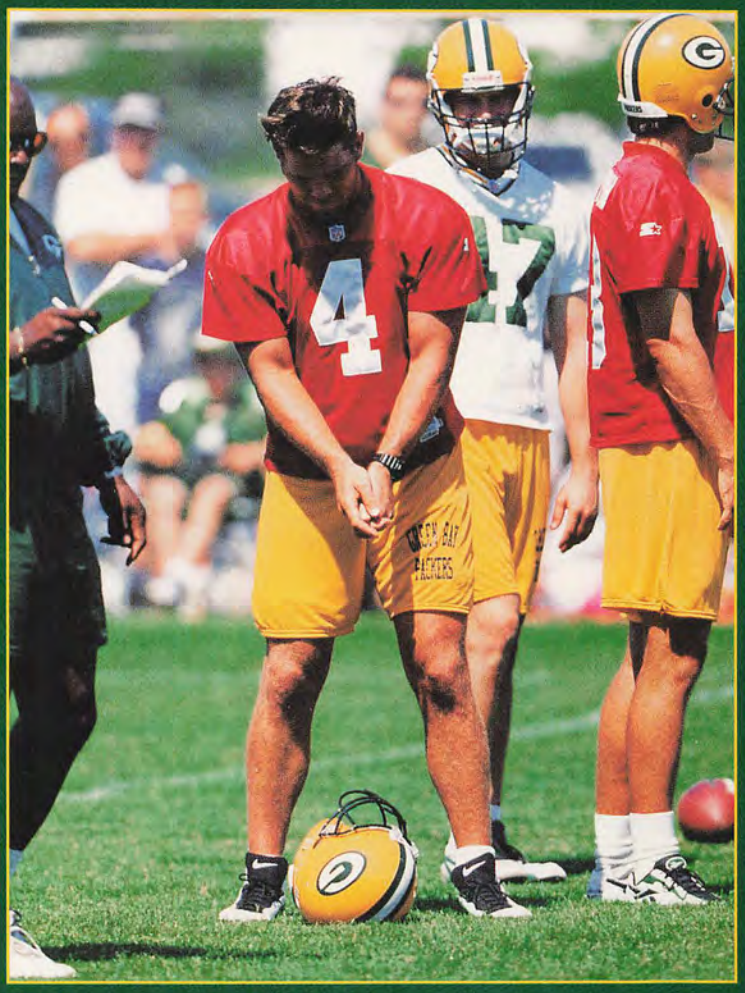
PACKERS

1997 NFL LEADERS
PASSING YARDS

(Through end of 1997 regular season)

1.	Jeff George	Oakland	3917
2.	**Brett Favre**	**Green Bay**	**3867**
3.	Dan Marino	Miami	3780
4.	Drew Bledsoe	New England	3706
5.	Warren Moon	Seattle	3678
6.	John Elway	Denver	3635
7.	Scott Mitchell	Detroit	3484
8.	Troy Aikman	Dallas	3283
9.	Mark Brunell	Jacksonville	3281
10.	Tony Banks	St. Louis	3254
11.	Brad Johnson	Minnesota	3036
12.	Steve Young	San Francisco	3029
13.	Kordell Stewart	Pittsburgh	3020
14.	Erik Kramer	Chicago	3011
15.	Vinny Testaverde	Baltimore	2971
16.	Neil O'Donnell	New York Jets	2796
17.	Chris Chandler	Atlanta	2692
18.	Gus Frerotte	Washington	2682
19.	Steve McNair	Tennessee	2665
20.	Trent Dilfer	Tampa Bay	2555



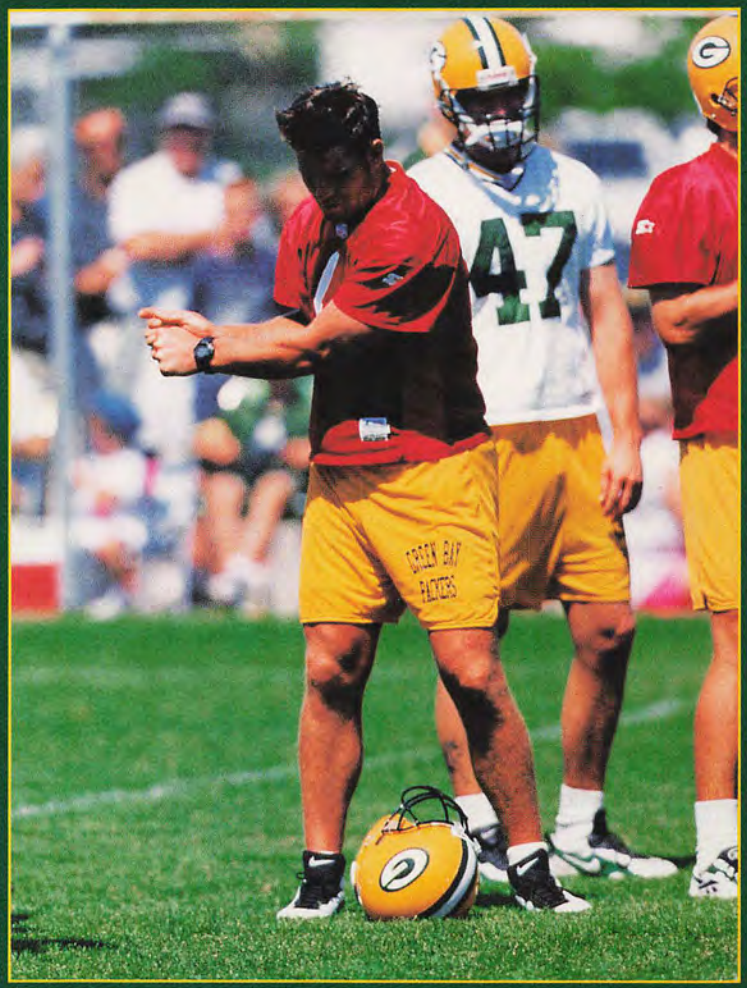
Which way to the fairway?

1997 NFL LEADERS
YARDS PER PASS ATTEMPT

(Through end of 1997 regular season; minimum 224 attempts)

1.	Steve Young	San Francisco	8.51	(3029/356)
2.	Chris Chandler	Atlanta	7.87	(2692/342)
3.	Mark Brunell	Jacksonville	7.54	(3281/435)
4.	**Brett Favre**	**Green Bay**	**7.54**	**(3867/513)**
5.	Jeff George	Oakland	7.52	(3917/521)
6.	Jake Plummer	Arizona	7.44	(2203/296)
7.	John Elway	Denver	7.24	(3635/502)
8.	Drew Bledsoe	New England	7.10	(3706/522)
9.	Bobby Hoying	Philadelphia	6.99	(1573/225)
10.	Warren Moon	Seattle	6.97	(3678/528)
11.	Dan Marino	Miami	6.90	(3780/548)
12.	Kordell Stewart	Pittsburgh	6.86	(3020/440)
13.	Scott Mitchell	Detroit	6.84	(3484/509)
14.	Brad Johnson	Minnesota	6.72	(3036/452)
15.	Jeff Blake	Cincinnati	6.70	(2125/317)
16.	Tony Banks	St. Louis	6.68	(3254/487)
17.	Gus Frerotte	Washington	6.67	(2682/402)
18.	Jim Harbaugh	Indianapolis	6.67	(2060/309)
19.	Trent Dilfer	Tampa Bay	6.62	(2555/386)
20.	Stan Humphries	San Diego	6.61	(1488/225)

1997 NFL LEADERS



PASSING TOUCHDOWNS

(Through end of 1997 regular season)

1.	**Brett Favre**	**Green Bay**	**35**
2.	Jeff George	Oakland	29
3.	Drew Bledsoe	New England	28
4.	John Elway	Denver	27
5.	Warren Moon	Seattle	25
6t	Trent Dilfer	Tampa Bay	21
	Kordell Stewart	Pittsburgh	21
8t	Chris Chandler	Atlanta	20
	Brad Johnson	Minnesota	20
10t	Troy Aikman	Dallas	19
	Scott Mitchell	Detroit	19
	Steve Young	San Francisco	19
13t	Mark Brunell	Jacksonville	18
	Vinny Testaverde	Baltimore	18
15t	Gus Frerotte	Washington	17
	Neil O'Donnell	New York Jets	17
17.	Dan Marino	Miami	16
18.	Jake Plummer	Arizona	15

PASSING COMPLETIONS

(Through end of 1997 regular season)

1.	Dan Marino	Miami	319
2.	Drew Bledsoe	New England	314
3.	Warren Moon	Seattle	313
4.	**Brett Favre**	**Green Bay**	**304**
5.	Scott Mitchell	Detroit	293
6.	Troy Aikman	Dallas	292
7.	Jeff George	Oakland	290
8.	John Elway	Denver	280
9t	Brad Johnson	Minnesota	275
	Erik Kramer	Chicago	275
11.	Vinny Testaverde	Baltimore	271
12.	Mark Brunell	Jacksonville	264
13.	Neil O'Donnell	New York Jets	259
14.	Tony Banks	St. Louis	252
15.	Steve Young	San Francisco	241
16.	Kordell Stewart	Pittsburgh	236
17.	Trent Dilfer	Tampa Bay	217
18.	Steve McNair	Tennessee	216
19.	Todd Collins	Buffalo	215
20.	Gus Frerotte	Washington	204

1997 NFL LEADERS
QUARTERBACK RATING

(Through end of 1997 regular season; minimum 224 attempts)

1.	Steve Young	San Francisco	104.7
2.	Chris Chandler	Atlanta	95.1
3.	**Brett Favre**	**Green Bay**	**92.6**
4.	Mark Brunell	Jacksonville	91.2
5.	Jeff George	Oakland	91.2
6.	Drew Bledsoe	New England	87.7
7.	John Elway	Denver	87.5
8.	Jim Harbaugh	Indianapolis	86.2
9.	Brad Johnson	Minneapolis	84.5
10.	Bobby Hoying	Philadelphia	83.8
11.	Warren Moon	Seattle	83.7
12.	Trent Dilfer	Tampa Bay	82.8
13.	Dan Marino	Miami	80.7
14.	Neil O'Donnell	New York Jets	80.3
15.	Scott Mitchell	Detroit	79.6
16.	Elvis Grbac	Kansas City	79.1
17.	Troy Aikman	Dallas	78.0
18.	Jeff Blake	Cincinnati	77.6
19.	Vinny Testaverde	Baltimore	75.9
20.	Kordell Stewart	Pittsburgh	75.2

1997 NFL LEADERS

Telex
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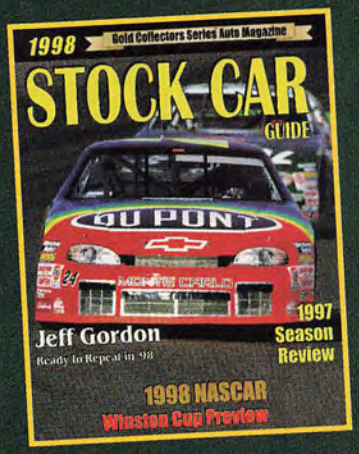
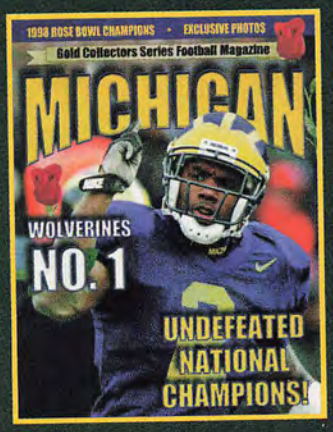
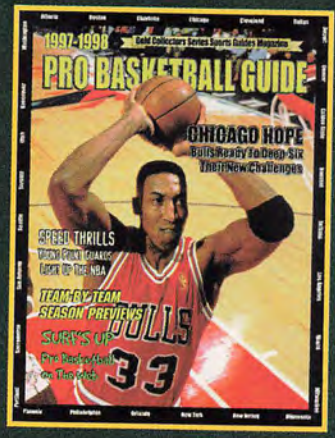
BRETT FAVRE
Fan Club Outing

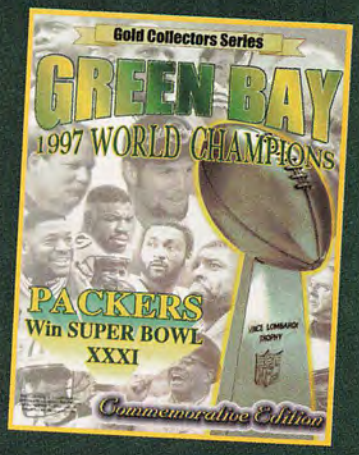
Madison, Wisconsin
August 22, 1997

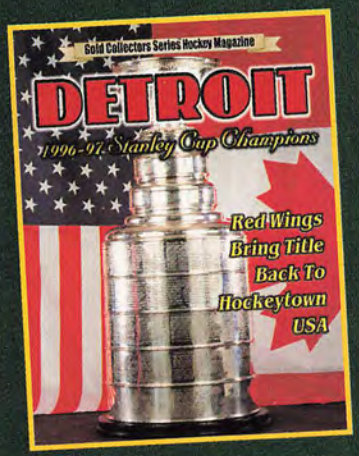
Gold Collectors Series™ Sports Magazine







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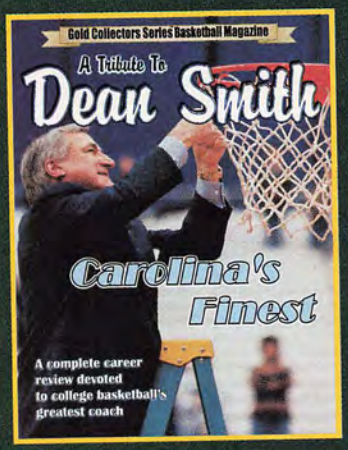
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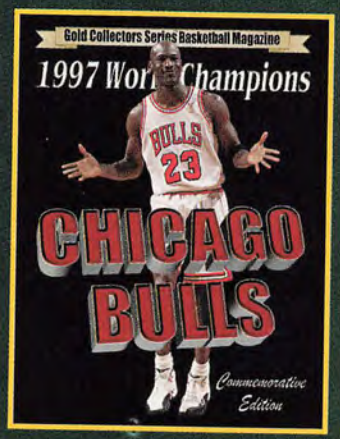

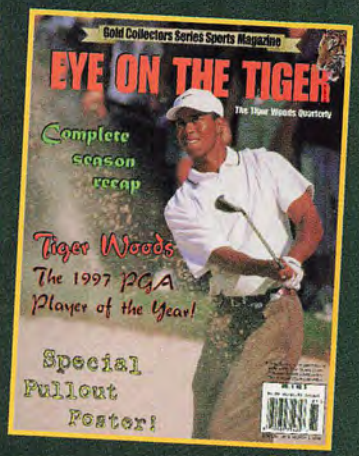
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